花とゆめCOMICS

夏目友人帳

緑川ゆき　4

夏目友人帳〔4〕

緑川ゆき

白泉社

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花とゆめCOMICS

▶収録作品◀

祖母の遺品で、妖怪達を支配する秘密の書"友人帳"を受け継いだ夏目少年。妖に襲われたり名を返したりと、てんてこまいの日々。学校帰りに用心棒妖怪ニャンコ先生と立ち寄った雪の原っぱで夏目の体を盾りようと殴りかかってきた者は!?

■LaLa掲載■

白泉社

作品かいせつ

強い妖力を持っていた祖母・レイコの遺品「友人帳」は多くの妖怪達を統べる契約書だった。受け継いで名を返していく事を決意した少年夏目は妖に襲われたりと、てんてこまいの日々。そんな中、用心棒妖怪ニャンコ先生と立ち寄った雪の原っぱで夏目に協力を求めてきた者とは!?

●緑川ゆきの本
——花とゆめコミックス——

あかく咲く声　全3巻
アツイヒビ
緑色の椅子　全3巻
蛍火の杜へ
夏目友人帳　①〜⑭

花とゆめCOMICS

夏目友人帳

第4巻

緑川ゆき

NATSUME YUUJINCHOU
VOLUME 04

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この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などにはいっさい関係ありません。

夏目友人帳 NATSUME YUUJINCHOU 早分かり帳

なつめゆうじんちょう A QUICK GUIDE

CHARACTER

夏目貴志

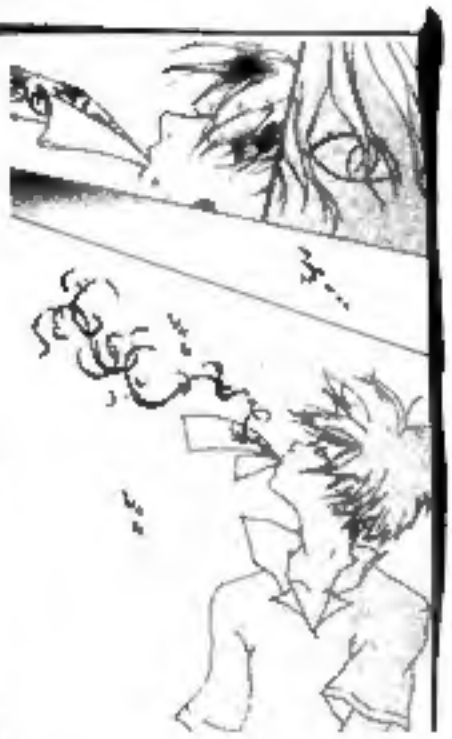
A LONESOME BOY WHO CAN SEE AYAKASHI. HE INHERITED HIS GRANDMOTHER'S HEIRLOOM, THE 'BOOK OF FRIENDS'. HIS PARENTS ARE DEAD, AND HE IS CURRENTLY IN THE CARE OF HIS DISTANT RELATIVES, THE FUJIWARA COUPLE. LIKE HIS GRANDMOTHER HE POSSESSES UNUSUALLY STRONG SPIRITUAL POWER, ENOUGH TO KNOCK DOWN AN AYAKASHI WITH HIS FIST.

ニャンコ先生

NATSUME'S GUARDIAN. HE HAS TAKEN THE FORM OF A MANEKI NEKO, AND IS CURRENTLY LIVING AS A PET CAT. HIS ORIGINAL FORM IS A YOUKAI CALLED MADARA. HE PROTECTS NATSUME IN A PINCH, BUT HE OFTEN GOES OUT DRINKING, AND BASICALLY HE'S THERE FOR NATSUME IN NAME ONLY.

STORY

THE BOY WHO HAS LOST HIS PARENTS, NATSUME, HAS A SECRET. THAT IS THAT HE CAN SEE YOUKAI. EVER SINCE THE BOOK OF FRIENDS, A BOOK OF CONTRACTS WITH YOUKAI, WAS LEFT TO HIM BY HIS GRANDMOTHER, HE HAS BEEN IN PLIGHT FROM BEING TARGETED BY AYAKASHI. ALONGSIDE THE GUARDIAN WHOSE SEAL HE BROKE AND PROMISED THE BOOK OF FRIENDS TO AFTER HE DIES, NYANKO-SENSEI, HE PASSES HIS BUSY DAYS RETURNING THE CONTRACTED NAMES TO THE YOUKAI.



夏目友人帳

NATSUME YUUJINCHOU

CHAPTER 13

第十三話（だいじゅうさんわ）

EVER SINCE I WAS SMALL I HAVE SOME-TIMES SEEN STRANGE THINGS.

AS IT SEEMS OTHER PEOPLE CANNOT SEE THEM THEY ARE MOST LIKELY

WHAT YOU WOULD CALL AYAKASHI.

SEN-SEI

SEN-SEI

NAT-SUME-KUN IS LYING AGAIN.

LYING?

WHAT DID NAT-SUME-KUN SAY?

HE HAS NO PA-RENTS SO HE JUST MOVED HERE.

HE TELLS LIES BECAUSE HE WANTS TO BE NOTICED RIGHT?

HE SAID THAT A WOMAN HAS BEEN STARING AS US THIS WHOLE TIME FROM THE WINDOW EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NO ONE THERE.

THAT'S IMPO-SSIBLE.

WA ...

COZ THIS IS THE THIRD FLOOR.

WAAA!!!

HUH

ぱっ

... AH

WHAT, A DREAM FROM WHEN I WAS A KID...

NAT-SUME ...

HAH...

WHAT? I'M FINE, IT'S NOTH-ING

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOME-THING?

IDIOT

REA-LLY?

IS IT LACK OF SLEEP AGAIN? NATSUME WHAT DO YOU DO AT NIGHT?

A PERVERTED GIRL?

AWE-SOME, IT'S PILED UP, HOW RARE.

キーン

カーン

HAHA, WHAT AN EXAG-GERA-TION

LIAR!

I'M VERY HAPPY RIGHT NOW

I HAVE NO RELA-TIVES SO I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PASSED AROUND.

AND THE ONES WHO HAVE TAKEN ME IN RE-CENTLY ARE THE KIND HEARTED FUJI-WARA COUPLE

FROM THE WARM FRIEND S WHO I HAVE MET IN THIS TOWN.

WOOF!

WOOF!

? ? ?

WOOF

WOOF

AH

THE FACT I CAN SEE AYAKASHI IS AN ABSOLUTE SECRET.

IT SEEMS HE KNEW MY DECEASED GRANDMOTHER REIKO SOMEHOW

MU, NATSUME, ON YOUR WAY BACK?

NYANKO-SENSEI.

HE'S MY SELF DECLARED GUARDIAN WHO'S BEEN LIVING WITH ME AS A PET CAT

WHEN NYANKO-SENSEI ADOPTS THE FORM OF A MANEKI NEKO OTHER PEOPLE CAN SEE HIM.

EVER SINCE I INHERITED IT AS AN HEIRLOOM

A REAM OF CONTRACTS IN WHICH IF THOSE SHE HELD HAD THEIR NAMES CALLED HAD TO ANSWER HER SUMMONS,' THE 'BOOK OF FRIENDS'

MY GRANDMOTHER REIKO POSSESSED GREAT SPIRITUAL STRENGTH, AND SHE CHALLENGED THE YOUKAI SHE MET ONE AFTER THE OTHER TO A MATCH AND BEAT THEM TO SUBMISSION

AS PROOF THEY HAD BECOME HER SUBORDINATES SHE FORCED THEM TO WRITE THEIR NAMES ON PAPER AND COLLECTED THEM

AH

STOP IT SENSEI, YOU'LL SLIP ON THE SNOW

JOY JOY

I CAME TO TEASE THIS DOG

WOOF

WOOF

SENSEI WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'VE BEEN ATTACKED BY AYAKASHI AND RETURNED THEIR NAMES, MY DAYS HAVE BECOME HECTIC

SENSEI... YOU OKAY...

HAHAHA EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A CAT AHAHAHAHA

DON'T LAUGH IDIOT, I TOLD YOU I'M NOT A CAT

PFFT...

OOF

SORRY SORRY

WHERE ARE YOU GOING SENSEI?

I'VE NEVER COME THIS WAY BEFORE

IT'S BEYOND THESE BUSHES

IT'S CALLED THE SHIBA FIELD, IN THE PAST THERE WERE TWO STATUES OF GODS WHO PROTECTED THE FOREST HERE

I'M GOING TO GET SOME HERBS THAT ARE EFFECTIVE FOR MY INJURED BACK

THAT'S NOT MY FAULT

IT'S CUZ YOUR LEGS ARE SHORT

NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE LEFT THOUGH

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, THERE'S NOT A SINGLE FOOTPRINT...

WAH CUT IT OUT。

I WONDER HOW LONG I CAN STAY LIKE THIS

UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO I DIDN'T HAVE THE LEISURE FOR THAT

...IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE PLAYED IN THE SNOW

CRAP THERE'S NONE HERE

IF I AM LEFT ALONE ONCE AGAIN

I WONDER IF I CAN ENDURE IT LIKE I USED TO...

す"
す"
す"
す"
す"
す"
す"
す"

しゅる

IT'S COMING OUT OF THE STATUE ...

え? あ- AKASHI ...?

しゅる

しゅる

しゅる

OH? HUMANS CHILD CAN YOU SEE MY FORM?

... PER- FECT

I NEEDED A CON- TAINER TO MOVE INTO

!!

UWA AAH

HUH

NATSUME

WILL BE BOR-ROW-ING THAT BODY FOR

!!

BUT...

YEAH I DODGED IT...

...

NAT-SUME ARE YOU OKAY?

AH

... WELL I SUPPOSE THIS IS FINE, AS LONG AS I HAVE A CONTAINER I CAN CHANGE INTO MY TRUE FORM AND I'LL BE able TO MOVE AROUND

WHAT IT'S OKAY?

FOR THE TIME BEING

I ENTERED THE SNOW BUNNY!!

CRAP!

WHAT!?

IF YOU SAY THAT YOU WON'T THEN

HUMAN'S CHILD

COULD YOU LEND ME YOUR STRENGTH UNTIL THIS CONTAINER MELTS?

I AM GEN. I AM THE ONE WHO DWELLS IN THAT STATUE

YOU'RE QUIT THE HUMAN'S CHILD TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A CONTAINER I CAN ENTER OUT OF SNOW

FOR SOME REASON IT CAME ABOUT THAT WE WOULD HELP THIS SNOW BUNNY (MALE)

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT HIM HERE TODAY SENSEI

SHIT, WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO ANNOYING?

I WILL BE PRESERVED FOR A SHORT TIME BY MY SPIRITUAL POWER THOUGH. .

HE'LL MELT IF I LEAVE HIM IN FOREST

ARE YOU TAKING IT HOME?

HOW ILL NATURED!!

I WILL CURSE YOU FOR THREE GENERA-TIONS

SO LIKE THIS

IT IS AN EVIL CREATURE, WHEN ITS BLACK ENERGY IS RELEASED THE PLANTS WILT AND THE HEARTS OF THE BEASTS ARE DISTURBED

I CANNOT LEAVE IT BE

THE ONE SEALED INSIDE HAS BEEN RE-LEASED

IN THE VILLAGE TO THE WEST OF THE SHIBA FIELD THERE IS A TREE WITH AN EVIL SPIRIT SEALED INSIDE, BUT RECENTLY IT HAS BEEN CUT DOWN

I WILL DEFI-ANTLY SEAL IT BY MY HAND

...SO BASI-CALLY YOU WANT US TO HELP YOU EX-ORCISE AN EVIL SPIRIT...?

...I WILL DEFI-ANTLY

NOW I THINK OF IT WHY ARE YOU ALONE GEN?

WASN'T THERE ANOTHER DOG STATUE IN SHIBA FIELD?

HATRED ...

...PROBABLY, THIS FEELING IS

SADNESS AND ...

GEN ...?

WHAT'S WITH THIS ATMOSPHERE?

RAIN, SNOW, MOON OR FLOWERS

WE WATCHED IT TOGETHER...

WE ALWAYS PROTECTED THE FOREST TOGETHER

THOSE DAYS WERE FUN

... YES

ALONE ...

I AM ALONE IN THE SHIBA FIELD NOW

...BUT SHE...

SUI WAS SMASHED INTO PIECES AND IS GONE NOW

ALONE HUH...

...?

トクン

'...GEN-SAMA'

トクン

'GEN-SAMA IS IT BORING HERE?'

'I'M HAPPY'

'I'M NOT BORED AT ALL'

'BECAUSE WE ARE ALWAYS'

ヒキ

ヒキ

ヒキ

'ALWAYS TO-GETHER'

パキ

...ﾅﾝﾃﾝ

A DREAM HUH...

ﾅﾃﾞﾅﾃﾞ

ﾅﾃﾞﾅﾃﾞ

...

GEN'S DREAM PROBABLY FLOWED INTO ME

'GEN-SAMA'

THAT HAPPILY SMIL-ING, BEAUTI-FUL GIRL WAS MOST LIKELY SUI

COME ON GEN, DON'T CRY TOO MUCH OR YOU'LL MELT

TAKA-SHIKUN BREAK-FAST

...PER-HAPS SUI WAS SMASHED BY THAT EVIL SPIRIT

AND THAT'S WHY GEN, WHO WAS LEFT ALONE, IS...

AH, COMING

THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT I WANT TO PROTECT

BLINK

GEN

HERE

IN THIS TOWN

I DON'T KNOW THE CIR-CUM-STANCES BUT

WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE AN EVIL SPIRIT TO ITS OWN DEVICES

...AN EVIL SPIRIT SEALED IN A TREE...?

AH, NOW YOU MENTION IT HAVE YOU HEARD? IT SEEMS THAT RECENTLY THAT TREE WAS CUT DOWN TO MAKE ROOM FOR A HIGH-WAY EXPAN-SION

REALLY

AND THE VILLAGERS AND A SKILLED MONK COM-BINED THEIR STRENGTH AND SEALED IT IN A BIG TREE

...THERE CER-TAINLY IS A STORY THAT IN THE PAST THE VILLAGE WAS SUD-DENLY AT-TACKED BY AN EVIL SPIRIT

JUST, HOW FAR DOES THE IGNO-RANCE OF PEOPLE WHO CAN'T FEEL THEM GO I WONDER

GEH SERI-OUS-LY?

SOME-THING SCARY WILL HAPPEN

THAT'S RIGHT!!

THERE'S A RUMOUR THAT THE PLANTS IN THE AREA AROUND THE FOREST PARK HAVE BEEN WILTING BE-CAUSE THE EVIL SPIRIT HAS ESCAPED

THAT'S BE-CAUSE OF ACID RAIN ISN'T IT

AHAHA

I'M BACK ...

...HOW EVER

THERE MIGHT BE SOME CLUES IF I GO TO THE FOREST PARK...

ｴﾘｶｰ ｴﾘｶｰ

WEL-COME BACK NAT-SUME--SAMA

EH? AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE...

UH, RABBIT EARS...!?

ARE YOU GEN!?

YES

I HAVE ESSENTIALLY BLENDED WITH THIS CONTAINER AND FOR A SHORT TIME I CAN ASSUME A FORM CLOSE TO MY ORIGINAL ONE

AS BOTH TRAINING AND THANKS I AM CLEANING YOUR YARD

...I SEE... THANK YOU

CLEAN-ING IS SOME-WHAT FUN

JUST LEAVE IT

I'M GRATE-FUL BUT IF YOU OVERDO IT

...I PROMISED TO HELP HIM DIDN'T I?

...I PROMISED TO HELP HIM DIDN'T I?

PEEL THIS FOR ME

SENSEI

THE SOONER HE MELTS THE SOONER WE'RE FREE OF HIM

YOU TWO REALLY GET ALONG WELL DON'T YOU?

HAHA

YOU'RE SAYING THOSE NAIVE THINGS AGAIN

YOU TWO REALLY GET ALONG WELL DON'T YOU?

がく

かおおおお

I DID IT

AHAHA

OH YOU

STOP IT

HAHAHA

うふふ

YESTERDAY YOU WERE HAVING A SNOW FIGHT WEREN'T YOU

GEN, THERE MIGHT BE A CLUE ABOUT THE EVIL SPIRIT IN THE FOREST PARK

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

...

がん

!!! KNOWING SOMEONE SAW THAT IS SOMEHOW REALLY EM-BARRASSING

...SUI WAS A KIND PERSON

I ONLY ACTED AS I WISHED AND HATED HUMANS SO

SUI WENT ALONG WITH THAT BUT...

...YES

WHEN THE POOR VIL-LAGERS CAME TO VISIT

WE WOULD HEAR THIS MYTH

THAT 'IF YOU SEE A THREE CO-LOURED RAINBOW YOUR WISH WILL BE GRANTED'

SUI SAID 'HOW FOOLISH' AND LAUGHED

BUT EVER SINCE THAT DAY IF SHE SAW A RAINBOW

SHE'D SAY 'IT'S NOT THREE CO-LOURS' WITH A TONE OF REGRET

'THOSE PEOPLE'S WISH WON'T BE GRANTED'

GEN

IS THE THING THAT CRUSHED SUI

THE EVIL SPIRIT YOU ARE CHASING NOW?

NAT-SUME-SAMA

THAT IS...

SQUELCH

...HM?

H''

T

T

T

A FISH THAT'S HAD ITS GUTS EATEN...

!? WOAH, WHAT'S THIS!?

LIKE A TRAIL OF BREAD-CRUMBS...

LOOK OVER THERE, THE PLANTS ARE WILTED HERE AND THERE

LET'S FOLLOW IT

SENSEI WAIT HERE

I CAN FEEL SOME-THING FROM THAT OLD SHACK

!!

...NAT-SUME-SAMA, THAT EVIL SPIRIT IT ACTUALLY ...

EH

THE AIR IS STALE ...

...THIS SMELL IS... IT'S THAT WAY!

AH, GEN!?

WAIT...

!!
!!
!!

GEN
...
!!

ズ
ズ

ズ

...
NAT-
SUME-
SAMA

THIS
IS

SUI

...
WHAT

BUT THAT'S
THE EVIL
SPIRIT...

YES, SUI
HAS
BECOME AN
EVIL
SPIRIT

THAT'S WHY I
WANTED TO
DO SOME-
THING ABOUT
IT WITH MY
OWN HANDS

LET GO

"""

!!

SUI

LET'S GO HOME

うう!

TO-GETH-ER...

GEN...

バッ"

ビュッ

ザッ

...TSK, IT GOT AWAY

GYA GYA

THE EVIL SPIRIT IS

!

IF AN EVIL AURA FLOWED PAST THE FIELD TO THE VILLAGE WE'D FLY OVER TO EXORCISE IT

IF SOMETHING BAD FLOWED IN WE'D PURIFY IT TOGETHER

WE DWELT IN THE STONE STATUES OF THE SHIBA FIELD, AND PROTECTED THE FOREST

SUI AND I WERE A PAIR

WE CONTINUED TO EXORCISE EVIL WITH ALL OUR MIGHT

WE ASKED THE PASSING AYAKASHI IF THEY KNEW A METHOD

THE VILLAGERS BEGGED US TO SOMEHOW FERTILISE THE SOIL

BUT ONE TIME THE SOIL IN THE VILLAGE THINNED AND THEY COULDN'T PRODUCE MANY CROPS

SAYING SUI AND I WERE SLOWING SUCKING AWAY THEIR LIFE

...BUT RUMOURS FROM THE VILLAGE CONTINUED TO REACH US

FOR THEIR SUFFERING

BUT STILL WE WANTED TO DO SOMETHING

WE COULDN'T MOISTEN THE FIELDS

... WE ARE EXORCIST GODS

EVEN SO

WE COULD NOT MOISTEN THE FIELDS

THEN ONE DAY ALL OF A SUDDEN

THEY BLAMED THEIR PLIGHT AND DROUGHT ON US AND SAYING WE WERE USELESS GODS, CAME TO DESTROY US WITH HOES AND SPADES

THEY SHOWED US NO MERCY

THEY SAID USELESS

UNNECESSARY GODS SHOULD JUST BE DESTROYED

SUI SCREAMED FOR THEM TO STOP

EVEN THOUGH WE LOVED THEM AND WISHED FOR THEIR HAPPINESS

BUT OUR VOICES DID NOT REACH THE HUMANS

DUE TO THAT INSANE ACT I WAS CRUSHED INTO SOMETHING THAT NO LONGER RESEMBLED A DOG

SUI WAS SHATTERED INTO PIECES AT THE BOTTOM OF A RAVINE

...AFTER THAT

IT CAME FLYING OUT FROM SUI'S SHATTERED CONTAINER... AN EVIL SPIRIT BORN OF SADNESS AND HATRED DESCENDED ON THE VILLAGE

WHEN HE THINKS OF SUI

...I COULD NOT PROTECT HER

I COULDN'T SHELTER HER HEART FROM THE PEOPLE

FROM THE HATRED...

SO THEN... SHE WAS SEALED BY THE PEOPLE IN THAT TREE

EVER SINCE

AND THAT HATRED

...YEAH

THE SADNESS THAT I SENSED IN GEN SOMETIMES

WITH MY OWN HANDS, FOR SHE WHO HAS BECOME AN EVIL SPIRIT...

SO AT THE VERY LEAST

I HAVE...

I'M BACK

WHEN HE THINKS OF HUMANS...

COULD HE HAVE MELTED!?

BEFORE I LEFT HE TURNED INTO A SNOW BUNNY AND I LEFT HIM HERE BUT HE S GONE

GEN!? WHERE ARE YOU?

SORRY GEN, TODAY I COULDN'T

HUH HE'S GONE!?

AH SORRY

IT WAS SO CUTE THAT I PUT IT IN THE FREEZER

I'LL GET IT OUT NOW, HOLD ON

EH

TAKASHI-KUN WEL-COME HOME

AH, TOUKO-SAN

DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE SNOW BUNNY I LEFT IN MY ROOM?

AH

HERE YOU GO

HAHA, HE WAS ALONE SO I FELT SORRY FOR HIM AND MADE AN-OTHER

ITS NO GOOD, I'M BAD AT IT

NO...

THAT NIGHT GEN SNUGGLED UP TO THE SMALL SNOW BUNNY AND SLEPT

BUT WHEN MORN-ING CAME THAT SMALL SNOW BUNNY

HAD MELTED VANISHED

IN THIS AREA AN UNUSUAL AMOUNT OF RAIN CONTINUED TO FALL

I GOT THE FEELING SUI WAS HIDING SOMEWHERE OVER THERE

IT SEEMED LITTLE BY LITTLE THE WOODS AND THE PONDS AND FIELDS WERE BEING RANSACKED BUT

I COULDN'T GRASP SUI'S LOCATION AT ALL

ASKING AROUND

I'LL GIVE YOU A COOKIE SO LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING

HA

...!?
NO THIS IS GEN '7
IS IT SUI '7
"
STOP
ST
STO

I'M BACK

PHEW

ばったり

!!!

STOP!!

ARE YOU OKAY GEN?

AH, DON'T GO NEAR HIM NATSUME

GEN'S CONDITION HAS TURNED STRANGE

SENSEI WHERE WERE YOU!?

DRINKING AT A TSUKIMI *

HE'S BEEN LONELY FOR TOO LONG

SEEMS LIKE HE'S BEEN FORCING IT DOWN SOMEHOW

LOOKS LIKE HIS SADNESS AND HATRED HAVE GROWN

HE'S BECOMING AN EVIL SPIRIT ALSO

T/N: TSUKIMI ? 'MOON VIEWING', A GATHERING WHERE YOU DRINK, EAT AND APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY OF THE MOON

PLEASE PUT MY NAME IN THERE

IF I BECOME EVIL

AT THAT TIME, PLEASE USE THAT AND STOP ME

...ME

NAT-SUME-- SAMA PLEASER E GIVE ME SOME PAPER

I'VE HEARD A RUMOUR, THAT NATSUME-SAMA HOLDS THE BOOK OF FRIENDS

EVEN BETTER

IF IT HAP-PENS PLEASE BURN THAT PAPER

...I CAN'T DO THAT

TAKING YOUR NAME IS THE SAME AS HOLDING YOUR LIFE

IF THE PAPER IS DESTROYED THEN THE AYAKASHI WILL TEAR APART

NO MORE

GEN, HANG IN THERE

YOU'RE NOT ALONE YET RIGHT?

...JUST A BIT MORE

I DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE ANY MORE

I PROMISED I'D HELP YOU DIDN'T I?

YOU HAVE US TOO

YOU HAVE SUI

YOU WERE GOING TO DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT RIGHT?

YOU PROTECTED ME FROM SUI DIDN'T YOU?

YOU SWEPT THE GARDEN FOR ME

I... CAN ONLY PRO-TECT THE FOREST, I AM USELESS

...I CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR NATSUME-SAMA...

AND I'LL DEFINITELY

I LIKE YOU GEN

YOU MIGHT HATE HUMANS BUT

I ALSO LIKE SUI WHO WISHED ON A RAINBOW FOR US

GEN CRIED A LOT, AND RETURNED TO THE FORM OF A SMALL SNOW BUNNY

I GET THE FEEL-ING HE CAN'T PRE-SERVE HIS BODY

HIS POWER DE-CLINES DAY BY DAY

NATSUME-SAMA

MASTER NATSUME

THANK YOU!

I SAW A SUSPI-CIOUS SHADOW IN THE EAST-ERN FOREST

I THOUGHT I SHOULD REPORT IT TO YOU

!

HOW DO YOU INTEND TO SEAL HER GEN?

I HAVE ALMOST NO POWER LEFT. IF THIS CON-TAINER DISAP-PEARS

MY SOUL WILL FORCE-FULLY RETURN TO THE STATUE AND I WILL FALL INTO A DEEP SLEEP

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO DO IT NATSUME-SAMA

I WANT TO TAKE SUI BACK TO THAT PLACE NO MATTER WHAT

IS THERE ONLY THAT UN-CERTAIN METHOD?

MOST LIKELY IS SUI TOUCHES ME AGAIN THIS BODY WILL MELT FROM THE HEAT OF HER EVIL

BUT IF IN THAT MOMENT I CAN EMBRACE HER, THEN BOTH OF OUR SOULS MIGHT RETURN TO THAT SINGLE STATURE

WHERE ...

...WHERE IS SHE

...WHERE IS SHE

SWI...

HA

HA

//"

AH

WAH, GEN!!

HERE'S NO WAY I'LL LET YOU ESCAPE BEFORE GEN GETS BACK

WAIT!!

しゃっ

しゃっ

SHE'S ESCAP-ING

ビュン

SIZZLE

HOT...

LET GO NAT-SUME YOUR HAND WILL GET FRIED

NO, IF I LET HER ESCAPE THEN GEN WILL

SHE'S BEEN EN-GULFED BY THE BURN-ING ENERGY OF HER HATEFUL THOUGHTS

たたた

SENSEI BRING

BRING GEN HERE...

SUI'S MEMORIES

...THIS IS

UGH...

SOMETHING IS FLOWING INTO ME

!?

'GEN SAMA'

'HAHA, I AM FINE'

'...YOU DON'T WANT THAT SUI THE RAIN IS COLD'

'EVEN THOUGH WE MUST PRAY FOR THE VILLAGE... I WONDER IF IT WILL HURRY AND RAIN AGAIN SOON'

'YET AGAIN A THREE COLOURED RAINBOW HAS FAILED TO APPEAR AND RAIN AGAIN SOON'

...LD

'I'M NOT COLD, BECAUSE YOU ARE HERE'

COLD

COLD

ズキン

! NATSUME LET GO, YOUR BODY CANNOT TAKE ANY MORE

NO, NOT TILL GEN GETS HERE...

UH...

...SUI ...

COLD

COLD

COLD

ズキン

I'LL BRING SUI HOME TO GEN..

NO WAY...

UGH...

TSK, DON'T YOU GET IT NATSUME GEN'S POWER IS ALL BUT GONE

IF YOU REFUSE TO LET GO

LET GO NATSUME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR LIFE

HE WOULD PROBABLY BE ANNIHILATED TOO

JUST BY MEETING SUI'S HEAT WOULDN'T JUST MELT GEN'S CONTAINER

!!!
SENSEI
NO

じゃっ

GEN...

ぎゅ

じゅうう

COLD

COLD

COLD

...I WAS COLD TOO, SUI

I WAS COLD

SO LET'S GO HOME

TO-GETH ER

LET'S GO HOME

I WAS HAPPY TOO, SUI

IF YOUR HEART ONE DAY HEALS

LET'S WAIT FOR THAT RAINBOW TOGETHER AGAIN

BECAUSE YOU WERE ALWAYS BY MY SIDE

ぱら

ぱら

ぱら

ズーン…

ぽ

あ

あ～

FAREWELL

NATSUME-SAMA..

FAREWELL

IT WAS AS THOUGH LIKE THE SNOW THAT MELTED ON MY HAND

SUI AND GEN VANISHED

BUT THE LIGHT THAT THEY GAVE OFF IN THAT MOMENT WAS VERY, VERY WARM

IN MY DREAM, TWO MERRY LITTLE LIGHTS RETURNED HOME TO THE MOUNTAIN WHERE A RAINBOW HUNG

I WONDER IF THEY RETURNED TO THE STATUE

ITS FINE ISN'T IT

I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE UNLIKE YOU, AYAKASHI AREN'T AS WEAK AS YOU THINK THEY ARE

...RIGHT

I'M NOT AS GOOD WITH GOODBYES AS YOU THINK I AM, OH MIGHTY SENSEI

SO...

SO...

I WANT TO TREASURE THINGS THAT I THINK ARE IMPORTANT

I NEVER UNDER-STAND THE CRAP YOU COME OUT WITH

I CAN'T SHOW YOU A RAINBOW BUT

I CAN PLANT SOME THREE COLOURED FLOWERS

THE SHIBA FIELD, I THOUGHT I'D PLANT SOME FLOWERS

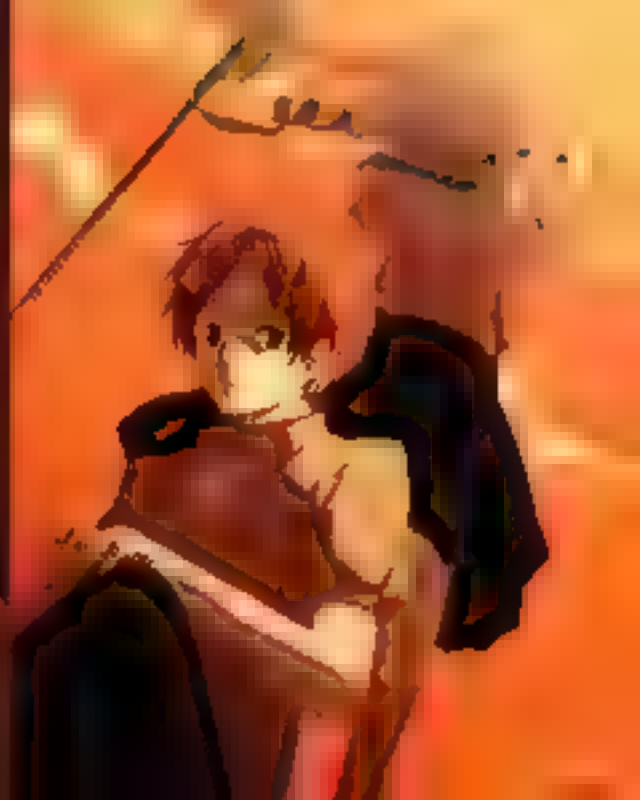
BY THE WAY WHERE ARE YOU GOING NATSUME?

PEOPLE LIKE FLOWERS

I'M SURE AYAKASHI DO TOO RIGHT?

WE BOTH SEE THE SAME SPRING, DON'T WE?

Credits



Transcendence

EVER SINCE I WAS SMALL I HAVE SOMETIMES SEEN STRANGE THINGS
AS IT SEEMS OTHER PEOPLE CANNOT SEE THEM THEY ARE MOST LIKELY
WHAT YOU WOULD CALL AYAKASHI.
WHISPER
WHISPER
THIS IS A PROBLEM
THIS IS A PROBLEM
WE CANNOT PASS LIKE THIS.
WE CAN'T CONTINUE LIKE THIS.
WHAT A PROBLEM.
..THEY'RE TINY

THEY REALLY ARE TINY.
THIS MIKOSHI IS ABOUT THE SIZE OF AN URN.
ふわ
WHAT A LUCK. A PATH HAS APPEARED
WE'RE SAVED
LET US PROCEED.
...YOU CAN JUST GO AROUND. CAN'T YOU?
THIS IS A PROBLEM.
THIS IS A PROBLEM.
ガヤ
T/N: MIKOSHI A PORTABLE SHRINE LIKE THE ONE PICTURED
!!
IT SEEMS MY NOW DECEASED GRAND-MOTHER REIKO COULD ALSO SEE AYAKASHI.
I SEE PECULIAR THINGS
IN THIS WAY
UWAAAAAH
NOW MAKE HASTE. WE MUST CARRY THE CUSTOMER TO THE RESTING PLACE. CARRY-

EVER SINCE I INHERITED IT, MY DAYS HAVE BEEN HECTIC
BEING ATTACKED BY AYAKASHI, AND RETURNING THEIR NAMES.
A REAM OF CONTRACTS SHE MADE BY FORCING AYAKASHI TO WRITE THEIR NAMES SO THEY WOULD BECOME HER SUBORDINATES, 'THE BOOK OF FRIENDS'
SHE TOOK OUT HER ANGER ON MANY AYAKASHI

I'M HOME...
THE FACT THAT I CAN SEE AYAKASHI IS A SECRET
IN ORDER TO NOT CAUSE ANY TROUBLE FOR THE KIND-HEARTED FUJIAWARA COUPLE
AND THE WARM PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN

THERE'S A LETTER STUCK IN THE DOOR
WHAT'S THIS?
A LETTER, OR A MEMO?

!?
PAPER-DOLLS?
するする
する
NYANKO-SENSEI IS MY SELF-APPOINTED GUARDIAN
HOWEVER...
ピンポーン
NATSUME, I'M BACK.
NYANKO-SENSEI, WHERE WERE YOU?
I WAS ON PATROL.
WHERE YOU JUST
I WAS SEARCHING FOR ANY AYAKASHI YOU LURED OUT THAT SEEM LIKE THEY MIGHT TRY AND TAKE A BITE OUT OF YOU FOR ME.
HE'S REALLY JUST AN AYAKASHI AFTER THE BOOK OF FRIENDS.
MU.
WHAT'S THAT?
IT WAS STUCK ON THE DOOR.
DUNNO.
ふっ
はっ

しゅるん
SQUEEZE
UGH!?
ギュッ
WAH
WAAAH!?
ずるずるずるずる
GYAH, NATSUME!?
WHA, WHAT'S HAPPENING? A HUGE POWER IS PULLING ME.
OW OW
WAAH-
!

...WHERE AM I? THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD PARK...?
HUH? NATSUME-KUN?
NATORI-SAN
HEY, LONG TIME NO SEE.
!
I CAST A JUTSU ON A PAPER DOLL SO IT WOULD COME TELL ME WHEN YOU GOT HOME AND STUCK IT IN THE DOOR BUT...
YOU'RE REALLY CLUMSY AREN'T YOU GETTING CAUGHT UP IN IT.
AHAHAHA
THIS IS YOUR WORK IS IT?
NATORI-SAN, WHO I RECENTLY MET IS
A PERSON WHO DOES A SIDE JOB EXORCISING YOUKAI.

ぱさっ
SHALL WE GO FOR TEA?
EH? NO WAY COULD HE BE
PSST HEY THAT GUY PSST
...
ON THE SURFACE IT SEEMS HE IS
WELL LET'S NOT STAND AND TALK HERE
THE CURRENTLY POPULAR IDOL, NATORI SHUUICHI
DO YOU LIKE ONSEN?
...NO
ARE YOU FREE THIS LONG WEEKEND?
TO BE HONEST I'M A LITTLE BAD WITH HIM
DUNNO

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN ME? AT AN ONSEN INN.
T/N: ONSEN JAPANESE HOT SPRINGS
HUH?
I WON THEM IN THE PERFUME SWEEPSTAKES, A HOTEL VOUCHER FOR TWO FOR AN ONSEN.
I, I SEE...
WHY ME... WHY DON'T YOU INVITE A GIRL?
MY AGENCY FORBIDS THAT.
...
YOU'RE A SUSPICIOUS GUY AS ALWAYS, NATSUME, SHALL I EAT THIS BRAT FOR YOU?
YOU HAVE MALE FRIENDS DON'T YOU?
NO.
YOU'RE THE ONLY FRIEND I HAVE WHO SEES THE SAME LANDSCAPE AS I DO.

...
WHAT!? LET'S GO NATSUME, EGGS, EGGS, ONSEN EGGS!!
OH, AND PETS ARE FINE IN THE INN TOO.
...I'VE NEVER BEEN ON A TRIP BEFORE.
SO I'LL TALK TO PARENTS FOR YOU.
T/N: EGGS COOKED IN AN ONSEN, A POPULAR TREAT OFTEN EATEN AT ONSEN
OH A TRIP?
SOUNDS LOVELY.
I WILL COME AND PICK HIM UP TOMORROW.
I'LL BE AT EASE KNOWING HE'S WITH SUCH A RELIABLE FRIEND.
I'LL BUY SOME SOUVENIRS.
...YEAH
PLEASE GO AND ENJOY YOURSELF.
HAHA, YOU ARE ALWAYS HOLDING BACK TAKASHI-KUN SO SEEING THIS MAKES ME VERY HAPPY.
AND JUST LIKE THAT...

OUR TWO DAY ONE NIGHT ONSEN TRIP FOR TWO AND A HALF BEGAN.
FIRST IS THE TRAIN.
TRAIN?
IT'S REALLY IN THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAINS ISN'T IT?
OKAY
WE'LL WALK A BIT FROM HERE
ARE YOU TIRED?
I'M HUNGRY, QUICK SMART YOU DAWDLERS.
GOING BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT ISN'T EXACTLY INCOGNITO.
THIS TRIP IS INCOGNITO SO IT'S PERFECT.
YEAH, ME TOO.
IM GLAD IT'S SUNNY.
...YES
BUT...

YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED.
I'M JUST GOING TO MAKE A PHONE CALL
I FORGOT TO TELL MY MANAGER ABOUT THE TRIP.
WHAT!? GEEZ... I'LL GO GET SOME TEA OR SOMETHING.
OH NO, THIS IS A WONDERFUL PLACE.
WELCOME TO THIS FAR AWAY PLACE.
どお？
I'M TIRED BUT IT FEELS SO GOOD
GOING ON LONG TRIPS OCCASIONALLY IS GOOD ISN'T IT?
TAP
TAP
TAP
THIS IS FUN...

IS IT COMING FROM THE CLOSET? WHAT IS IT
I'M BACK NATSUME, IT SEEMS LIKE NO ONE'S IN THERE RIGHT NOW SO LET'S GO TO THE ONSEN.
HUH? HE'S NOT HERE...
ALRIGHT LET'S GO, SENSEI...
HM?
AH, IT'S NOTHING.
I'M SURE HE JUST WENT OFF TO PLAY, LET'S GO AHEAD.
IT'S TRUE, THERE'S NO ONE HERE...
家族風呂

I WAS ORIGINALLY CERAMIC SO I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE THAT BLUNDER.
HMPH.
THE WATER IS GREAT
DON'T DIRTY IT SENSEI.
SINCE WHEN ARE YOU MY MASTER?
THAT'S THE MASTER GETTING IN FIRST IDIOT!
WHAT'S WITH AN ANIMAL GETTING IN THE BATH FIRST HUH?
AHAHA, COME NOW YOU MUSTN'T FIGHT
EVEN SO YOU CAN FLOAT?
DOES IT FEEL GOOD?
YES...
NATORI-SAN HAS A BIRTHMARK SHAPED LIKE A GECKO ON HIS SKIN
IT SEEMS LIKE OTHER PEOPLE CAN'T SEE IT, THAT AYAKASH
THAT'S GOOD
IT REALLY MOVES ALL ROUND DOESN'T IT. .
I'M NOT REALLY SURE IF I SHOULD LOOK OR NOT.
しゅる
IT MOVES ALL ABOUT HIS BODY AS THOUGH IT WAS ALIVE
I'M KIND OF BAD WITH AYAKASHI AS WELL, BUT...

NATORI-SAN PROBABLY HATES THEM.
WAA
WHAT'S WRONG NATSUME, ARE YOU IN LOVE?
FORGIVE ME, I FORGOT HE WAS SUCH A WEAKLING.
HIIRAGI, DIDN'T I TELL YOU DON'T FRIGHTEN NATSUME?
HUMANS AROUND MY AGE ARE SENSITIVE TO THAT KIND OF THING
AND YOU SUDDENLY APPEARING LIKE THAT IS SCARY ANYWAY DON'T YOU THINK?
YOU'RE NOT A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL ARE YOU!?
ばぁ
Waaah
...
HIIRAGI IS ONE OF THE AYAKASHI WORKING UNDER NATORI-SAN.

01

こんにちは 緑川です。12冊目のコミックスとなりました。初めての方、ずっとお付きあいしてくれている方、本当にありがとうございました。

嬉しいことにこの巻で、ずっと目標にしていた三巻目越えを達成することが出来ました。

実はこの目標がとても遠い気がした対策として、短編集の色を統一させて頂いていたのでした。短編集ででもいいから何とか同じ色のものが二巻以上続くくらいの気迫をお見せしたいという野望がありました。

「夏目」もどちらかというと短編集のようなものですが、応援してくれた方達のお力をお借りして、またひとつ目標を達成することが出来ました。これからも攻めていけるようじりじりマンガを描いていきたいです。ありがとうございました。

ぶらん
UH, UM, OVER THERE...
WHAT'S WRONG?
A BODY IS HANGING FROM THE CEILING...?
WAH?
Waah!!
NO, I DIDN'T BRING ANYONE BUT HIIRAGI
NATORI-SAN DID YOU BRING ANY OTHER SHIKI?
DID YOU SEE SOMETHING?
AH.. IT DISAPPEARED.

EH, BUT...
DON'T WORRY I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, LET'S GO HIIRAGI.
YOU'LL CATCH A CHILL SO WAIT IN THE ROOM NATSUME.
SHALL I TAKE A LOOK AROUND THEN?
AH, NO...
MUST BE MY IMAGINATION...
I WONDER IF IT'S ANOTHER AYAKASHI AFTER THE BOOK OF FRIENDS..
NATSUME, YOU SHOULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE BOOK OF FRIENDS.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID ANYTHING
IF THAT'S THE CASE THEN
IT'LL BE MY FAULT IF NATORI-SAN GETS CAUGHT UP IN THIS.
YEAH, IT'S RIGHT HERE.
HE INVITED ME HERE FOR A HOLIDAY

NOW I THINK ABOUT IT I HAVEN'T TOLD NATORI-SAN ABOUT THE BOOK OF FRIENDS YET..
DON'T TELL HIM, HE'LL STEAL IT.
HE MAY SEEM LIKE IT, BUT HE WOULDN'T DO THAT.
EVEN IF YOU DECIDE TO CONFIDE IN HIM ABOUT SUCH THING, THE PROBLEM IS WITH YOU ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE THINKING THAT AFTERWARDS HE'S GOING TO TRY AND HELP YOU OUT, WITH HIS EYE ON THE BOOK OF FRIENDS AREN'T YOU?
...
ITS TRUE THAT'S VERY PROBLEMATIC...
YOU PESSIMIST
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
THERE'S NOTHING THERE HUH...
OH YEAH IN THIS CLOSET...
IS THERE SOMETHING IN HERE?
THERE'S A POT...

WHAT?
...SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT
THE SPOT YOU SAW THAT THING
OH YEAH, IT WAS EXACTLY UNDERNEATH HERE RIGHT?
A POT? IN THE CLOSET?
LOOK THERE'S SOME PAPER ON THE LID THAT'S BEEN CUT BY SOMETHING.
YEAH, A POT WITH A LID.
THIS POT IS ABOUT THE RIGHT SIZE FOR A HUMAN HEAD ISN'T IT?
THE BODY HANGING FROM THE CEILING.
ぞっ
MU, SO YOU'RE NOT GOING OPEN IT, HOW BORING.
LET'S PRETEND WE DIDN'T SEE IT.

...NO...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN ON YOUR END?
NOTHING WAS REALLY DIFFERENT.
WAH, NATORI-SAN.
I'M BACK, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT PICKLED SHALLOTS?
IT MIGHT BE PACKED FULL OF PICKLED SHALLOTS.
I WON'T BE FOOLED BY THAT AMUSING TEMPTATION.
I SEE..
...ACTUALLY THERE IS SOMETHING THAT'S BOTHERING ME A BIT
...I'M SORRY NATORI-SAN
SERIOUSLY
ALRIGHT, LET'S EAT.
SHALL WE ADD SOME SASHIMI FOR THE KITTY?
BOTHERING YOU WITH SUCH THINGS IS...
YOU WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF BRINGING ME ON A FUN TRIP
BUT I'VE ONLY SEEN AND HEARD IT, IT HASN'T DONE ANY HARM

02

＊インタビュー

「夏目友人帳」では今まで体験したことのないようなことにお声をかけて頂け（表紙、サイン会など）どきどきと嬉しいことが増えてきたのですが、「季刊エス」さまという雑誌にインタビュー記事を載せて頂けることになりました。しっかり夏目を読んでから作って頂いた質問内容を見て、自分の作品について質問して頂けるのってこんなに嬉しいものなのかと感激しました。
うれしくてうっとりしていると、「出来れば自筆でお答えください」の一文があり、やはり代返対策だろうかとプロの世界っぽさにときめきながら（おバカすぎでした）勇いでつらつらと答えを書かせて頂いたのでした。

←03へつづく

OKAY
I'M EXHAUSTED
DO YOU GET ALONG WELL WITH YOUR CURRENT GUARDIANS?
SO TIRED

IF YOU EVER GET TIRED OF TELLING LIES COME TO MY PLACE.
BUT..
IS THAT SO?
YES.
YES.
THEY TREAT ME VERY KINDLY.
うと
うと
うと
...LIES?
うと
BEING CALLED A LIAR BECAUSE I SAW AYAKASHI..
YEAH, WHEN I WAS SMAL. I WAS ALWAYS
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET BY TOGETHER WITHOUT TELLING ANY LIES.
LIAR
LIAR
...LIES...?

IT SEEMS I'VE BEEN HAVING THAT DREAM A LOT LATELY.
I WASN'T
LIAR
LIAR
BUT I WASN'T LYING
AT THAT TIME..
LIAR
LIAR.
はっ
ARE YOU ALRIGHT NATSUME? YOU'RE CRYING?

SORRY.
ごし
ごし
...HUH? OH YOU'RE RIGHT, I'M SORRY.
DID YOU HAVE A NIGHTMARE?
LIAR, HUH?
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
...CRYING IN A DREAM, WHAT A DISGRACE
...SOMETHING LIKE THAT

THE CLOSET IS OPEN.
TAP
TAP
TAP
ズル…
SORRY, BUT IT PROBABLY ISN'T PICKLED SHALLOTS..
IT KEPT MAKING NOISES..
IT SEEMS LIKE THE LID FELL OFF ON ITS OWN JUST NOW..
THE P-PO T OPENED..
AH, THE PICKLED SHALLOTS ONE YOU MENTIONED BEFORE?
EH? P-POT?
THE LID ON THE POT CAME OFF...!?
SE-
SENSEI,
NATORI-SAN...
...HM?

INSIDE THE CLOSET HUH... YOU KNOW THE LID CAME OFF EVEN THOUGH YOU DIDN'T SEE IT...
ALRIGHT, LET'S OPEN IT.
PROBABLY.. AN UNPLEASANT PRESENCE CAME FLOWING OUT OF IT.
...HUH?
ITS EMPTY
OR WHATEVER WAS INSIDE HAS RUN AWAY.
...SO THIS IS WHERE IT WAS
I'LL GO LOOK DOWN-STAIRS..
LET'S GO SENSEI.
...
THERE WAS A PRETTY POWERFUL SEAL ON THAT POT SO I DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
WHAT?
I THINK YOU UNCONSCIOUSLY SENSED THAT TOO SO YOU DIDN'T TELL NATORI.
BUT TO BREAK THAT SEAL ALONE IT MUST BE QUITE A POWERFUL ONE.

はっ
AND
THAT SEAL WAS RECENT..
RECENT..?
ずずず…
ぼたり
Gyaaah!
OOH..
OOH..
OOH..
OOH..

03

※インタビュー㉒

答えと、数本のプロット、ネームを送らせて頂き、数週間後、きれいに作ってくださったページをFAXで送って頂きました。うれしくてぶるぶるしつつ目を通させて頂くと、インタビュー記事は自筆文のまま載せて頂いておりました。
今考えると当然のことなのですが舞いあがっている人間は本当に思考能力が低下するのだなとマヌケぶりを思い知りました。もう少し丁寧に書かねばならなかったのにと失礼を思い省みつつ出来上がった雑誌の記事に目を通させて頂いたのですが、キュートな色とかっちりした画面を作って頂いた気持ち良さに、嬉しさが改めてこみあげてしまいました。

よろしければぜひご一読して頂けるとうれしいです。
宝物になりました。

...MY NAME IS SUMIE
I HAVE ALWAYS LIVED ON THIS LAND BUT
HUMANS CAME HERE AND THOUGHT I WAS A NUISANCE SO I WAS SEALED IN THAT POT..
I HATE HUMANS.
しく しく
PLEASE RETURN MY NAME.
IF YOU RETURN MY NAME I WILL LEAVE THIS PLACE AND DISAPPEAR INTO THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAINS.
PLEASE.
IF YOU DO THAT I WILL NOT LINGER NEAR HUMANS ANY LONGER.

YOU DON'T PLAN ON CAUSING ANY TROUBLE FOR THIS INN?
IF YOU DO, I WILL CALL YOUR NAME AND ORDER YOU TO LEAVE
NO, NATSUME SAMA
EVEN WITHOUT YOU CALLING MY NAME AND ORDERING ME, I WISH TO LEAVE THIS PLACE...
SIGH.
IS THAT SO?
I'M SORRY FOR HOLDING YOUR NAME FOR SO LONG.
SORRY SUMIE...
I WILL RETURN YOUR NAME TO YOU.
ぱらぱらぱら…

NATSU...
TO RELEASE THE NAME FROM THE PAPER YOU NEED
THE BREATH AND SALIVA OF SOMEONE RELATED TO REIKO...
SUMIE
I WILL RETURN IT TO YOU
ACCEPT IT...

HAHA, NOW I HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR
UNLIKE REIKO, YOU ARE KIND.
!
!
HA
HAHA
!
NATSUME..
I'LL EAT YOU IN ONE BITE SO YOU WON'T SUFFER AT LEAST...
GYAH
!

NATORI-SAN...
TSK.
TSK, THEY ESCAPED.
THEY CAN'T ESCAPE FROM THIS INN..
OH WELL. THIS IS MY FIRST FEAST IN A WHILE..
OOH...

...I WAS NAIVE
...
I BELIEVED THAT AYAKASHI'S WORDS.
CRAP, I WAS FOOLED.
THERE'S A ROOM AROUND HERE.
THIS WAY
WHY AM I...
EVEN THOUGH I WAS TRYING TO UNDERSTAND HOW THAT AYAKASHI FELT
BECAUSE OF ME NATORI-SAN AND THE PEOPLE OF THIS INN MIGHT BE IN DANGER...
I WAS NAIVE...
SINCE WHEN DID I...
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME.
OI, NATORI BRAT, SPILL IT.
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
PLANNING...?

...WOAH, WHAT'S WITH THIS ROOM...?
WHAT, THEN
I PREPARED IT AFTER THE BATH...
YOU LIED TO NATSUME WHO HATES EXORCISING AYAKASHI SO YOU COULD HAVE HIM COME HERE AND HELP YOU SEAL IT.
THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE.
IT ESCAPED TO THIS INN.
THERE HAS BEEN AN AYAKASHI CAUSING HARM IN THE MOUNTAINS BEHIND THIS INN, AND IT SEEMS RECENTLY A POWERFUL EXORCIST CAME TO SEAL IT BUT...

SORRY.
SORRY, NATSUME.
THAT'S RIGHT. //I'M SORRY...
DECEIVING PEOPLE HAS BECOME A HABIT OF MINE.
YOU WERE ENJOYING YOURSELF SO MUCH I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE OKAY IF I COULD EXPLAIN IT PROPERLY AND YOU'D UNDERSTAND.
WITHOUT REALISING IT WE HAVE BECOME USED TO TELLING LIES...
I HAVE THINGS I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU, NATORI-SAN.
...NO, EVEN I
IT SEEMS THAT WAY.
ME
AND NATORI-SAN
THIS TIME I WAS TOO NAIVE...
I'LL HELP YOU.

THANK YOU.
WE'LL BE USING THE WHOLE ROOM AS A BARRIER AND SEALING THE AYAKASHI SO SENSEI AND HIIRAGI BETTER LEAVE
WHAT, THAT'S LAME
I CAN SMELL IT
THIS ROOM..
HAHA, I'LL EAT YOU.
I'LL EAT ALL YOU CURSED HUMANS.
ひらりしゅるり

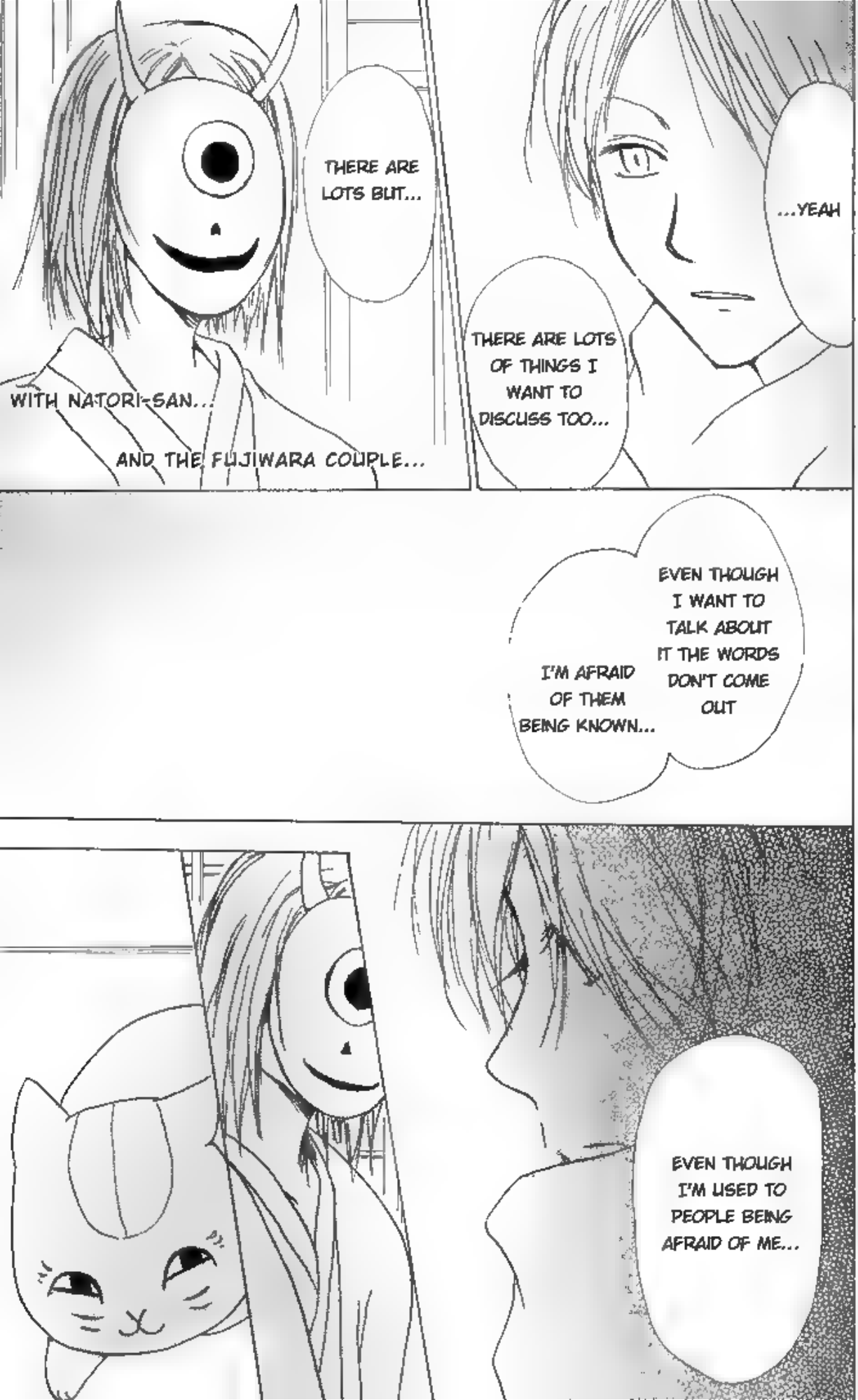
TSK.
SHE SLIPPED OUT..!
HA HA

WHISP
!
NATORI-SAN

I WILL NOT FORGIVE YOU FOR HARMING NATSUME DONO
?!
WHAT? THIS AYAKASHI THAT APPEARED ALL OF A SUDDEN IS...
GYAH
I'VE SEARCHED FOR YOU NATSUME DONO
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? YOU BUILT A BRIDGE FOR ME.
しゅる
しゅる
I WILL TAKE THIS ONE AND PURIFY IT MYSELF.
..THREE EYES?
はっ

With this I have repaid my debt...
Farewell.
ぎゅるん
Gyaah
!
ぱら
ぱら

AND LIKE THAT
THE INN AYAKASHI EXORCISM WAS SOLVED.
...JUST WHEN DID YOU MEET SUCH A HUGE AYAKASHI?
I JUST HELPED HIM OUT A BIT..
SO THERE ARE SINCERE AYAKASHI AS WELL..
BUT I CAN SEE THEM
THEY CRY AND THEY ARE TROUBLED...
YOU GOT NEEDLESSLY INVOLVED WITH AN AYAKASHI AGAIN.
BUT...
HE ONLY CAME TO CHECK ON THE AYAKASHI THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SEALED..
IT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY SO HE JUST WANTED TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO YOU..
AND THEY BETRAY YOU...
AND RETURN YOUR FAVOURS...
I WONDER IF I'M NAIVE...
NATSUME


WITH NATORI-SAN...
AND THE FUJIWARA COUPLE...
THERE ARE LOTS BUT...
THERE ARE LOTS OF THINGS I WANT TO DISCUSS TOO...
...YEAH
EVEN THOUGH I WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT THE WORDS DON'T COME OUT
I'M AFRAID OF THEM BEING KNOWN...
EVEN THOUGH I'M USED TO PEOPLE BEING AFRAID OF ME...

TO THE PEOPLE WHO I WANT TO KNOW MY TRUE SELF..
フロント
I'LL TALK ABOUT IT...
BUT..
ONE DAY SURELY..
NO, I REALLY DID HAVE FUN.
IT MIGHT BE ANNOYING, BUT WOULD YOU CONTINUE TO MEET WITH ME OCCASIONALLY?
THANKS FOR WAITING.
SORRY FOR GETTING YOU MIXED UP IN THIS AGAIN.
YEAH, OF COURSE

AND LIKE THAT

MY FIRST TRIP ENDED...

OKAY.

ALRIGHT, LET'S GO HOME.

WITH LOTS OF MEMO-RIES

AND THINGS I WANNA TALK ABOUT...

WITH A LITTLE RESTLESSNESS I HURRIED ALONG THE ROAD HOME

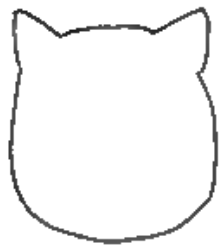
WHERE SHOULD I START?

猫

ニャンコ先生の描き方

①耳はちょっとふせぎみです

↓



②かなりしもぶくれ

↓

③額が広くて目は下の方

↓

④黒目がデカいとかわいくなるので、不気味気味な幅で

←

⑤2.5頭身！

夏目友人帳

なつめゆうじんちょう

NATSUME YUUJINCHOU

CHAPTER 15

第十五話（だいじゅうごわ）

WHAT YOU WOULD CALL AYAKASH
EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE I WOULD SOME-TIMES SEE STRANGE THINGS .
AS IT SEEMS OTHER PEOPLE CAN'T SEE THEM THEY ARE MOST LIKELY
SIGN: The twelfth ever Flea Market
I WANT SOME SMALL GRATIN DISHES
TAKASHI-KUN
THEY'RE OPENING A FLEA MARKET IN NANATSUJ PARK
OI NATSUME!
SO WE'RE HAVING GRATIN TONIGHT THEN.
COULD YOU RUN THIS ER-RAND FOR ME?

NYANKO-SENSE IS A YOUKAI WHO IS LIVING WITH ME AS MY SELF APPOINTED GUARDIAN. IN THE HOUSE OF THE KIND-HEARTED FUJIWARA COUPLE

I CAME TO BUY SOME GRATIN DISHES, THREE FOR ME AND THE COUPLE

HM..

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WOAH, NYANKO-SENSE

SO YOU'RE NOT BUYING ME ONE!?

UGH!

I'LL HAVE YOU BUY ONE MORE DISH FOR ME

NOW STAND UP STAND UP NATSUME!!

GEEZ

You can't just be calm can you?

Sign- Handmade accessories

FOUR GRATIN DISHES? THANKYOU VERY MUCH

ALRIGHT SENSEI, LET'S GO HOME

IT SEEMS THAT MY DECEASED GRAND MOTHER REIKO COULD SEE AYAKASHI

AND I GUESS BY INHERITANCE OR SOMETHING, SO CAN I

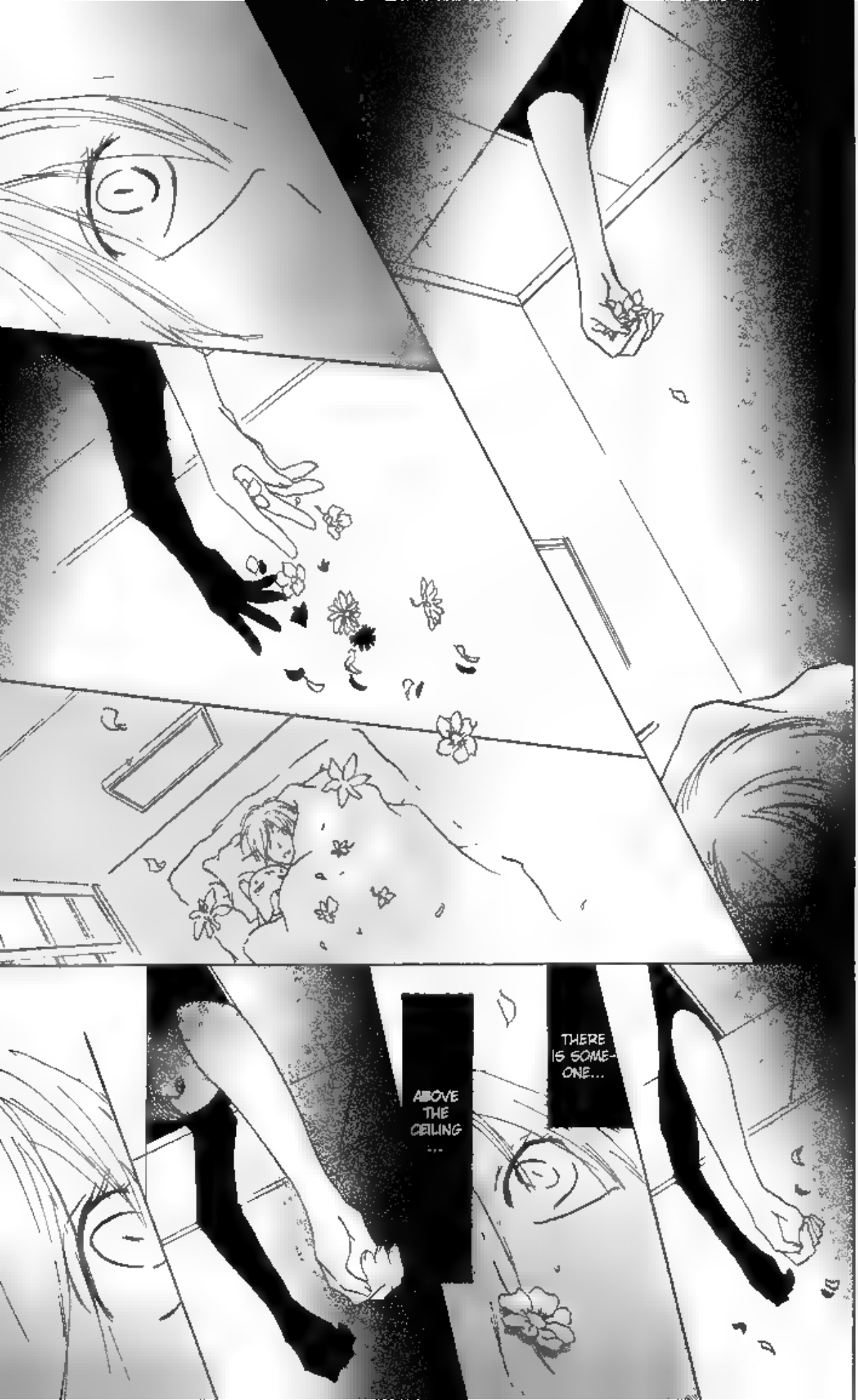
WHAT A PRETTY HAIR CLIP
Natsume buy this woollen cushion
I THINK IT WOULD SUIT TOUKO-SAN
IT'S PRETTY ISN'T IT?
WOULD YOU LIKE IT FOR A GIFT?
WHAT !?
N- NO I'M FINE
SORRY
ざわ、
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?
I SENSED A STRANGE PRESENCE
Signs from right to left- 2000 yen, 500 yen, 1000 yen, 900 yen
DO YOU LIKE THAT PAINTING?
WAS IT AROUND HERE?

WHAT?
I'M CLOSING MY SHOP NOW BUT IT'S STILL HERE
COULD YOU TAKE IT OFF MY HANDS?
HUH?
WAIT, I'LL WRAP IT UP FOR YOU.
AH, WAIT, UM.
WELCOME BACK, TAKASHI-KUN.
THIS IS JUST THE SIZE I WANTED.
THANK YOU.
I SHOULD HAVE BOUGHT THAT HAIR CLIP AFTER ALL.
IF SHE'S SO HAPPY JUST FROM THIS ONE ERRAND
ARE YOU GONNA HANG IT UP?
IT'S ALL JUST BRANCHES, WHAT A BORING PAINTING.
REALLY? I THINK IT'S QUITE PRETTY.
BUT THAT'S TRUE I GUESS

WOULD
VE BEEN
IF IT HAD
OOMING
OWERS...
LIKE
HAI
A GENTLE COLOURED
FLOWER
HM?
パラ
WHA-

WHAT IS THIS?
..FLOWERS?
THEY MUST HAVE FLOWN IN FROM SOMEWHERE.
MYSTERIOUSLY
WAAH!? AGAIN!?
THE NEXT MORNING
GYAH, TODAY TOO?
AND THE MORNING AFTER THAT TOO
HOW RUDE. I HAVE NO INTEREST IN CRAP LIKE FLOWERS!
YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T PICK THEM UP WHILE YOU WERE WANDERING AROUND DRUNK SOMEWHERE SENSEI?

I HAVE TO STOP THEM QUICKLY
ALRIGHT TONIGHT, I'M PULLING AN ALL NIGHTER AND FIGURING OUT THE CAUSE
IF IT'S THE DOING OF AN AYAKASHI
IT STARTED THE DAY I HUNG THIS PAINTING UP
IT COULDN'T BE THAT WHILE I SLEPT, THE FLOWERS BLOOMED ON THE BRANCHES. NO WAY THAT'S TOO MUCH LIKE A FAIRYTALE
I'LL REPEL ANYTHING EVIL THAT COMES INTO THIS HOUSE
Sneak
Sneak
WOAH!
TO BEGIN WITH IT'S THE DOING OF SOMETHING
Glitter
Glitter
DON'T JUST COME IN HERE SENSE!!
WHY DO YOU HAVE A NET?
THERE'S NOTHING SO UNSCIENTIFIC LIKE THAT
Lovely
Giggle
IT MIGHT BE THE DOING OF A FAIRY
I'll catch it


THERE IS SOME-ONE...
ABOVE THE CEILING ...

WAAAH!!
UH...
BANG!
GYAH!
WAAAH!
WHAT A DISAGREEABLE ONE, INFRINGING UPON MY TERRITORY.
...IT'S YOU? WHY THE FLOWERS?

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, THIEF
THIEF? WHA- I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING
THOSE FLOWERS ARE AN OFFERING FOR HIM.
WHA-
YAH!
YOU INSOLENT WOMAN! I'LL EAT YOU!!
ALSO SENSEI AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES HERE, WHO'S 'HE'?
AND? WHY AM I A THIEF?
UH.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? HE'S RIGHT HERE.
I WAS FINALLY DOING SOMETHING GUARDIAN-LIKE...
WH-WHY ...?
QUIT IT SENSEI !!
HUH!?

BEHIND YOU.
THERE.
BEHIND ME ?
QUIT YELLING! YOU'RE GOING TO SCARE YASAKA-SAMA.
THERE'S A TINY PERSON BETWEEN THE TREES. .
ビ
WAAAH!!

04

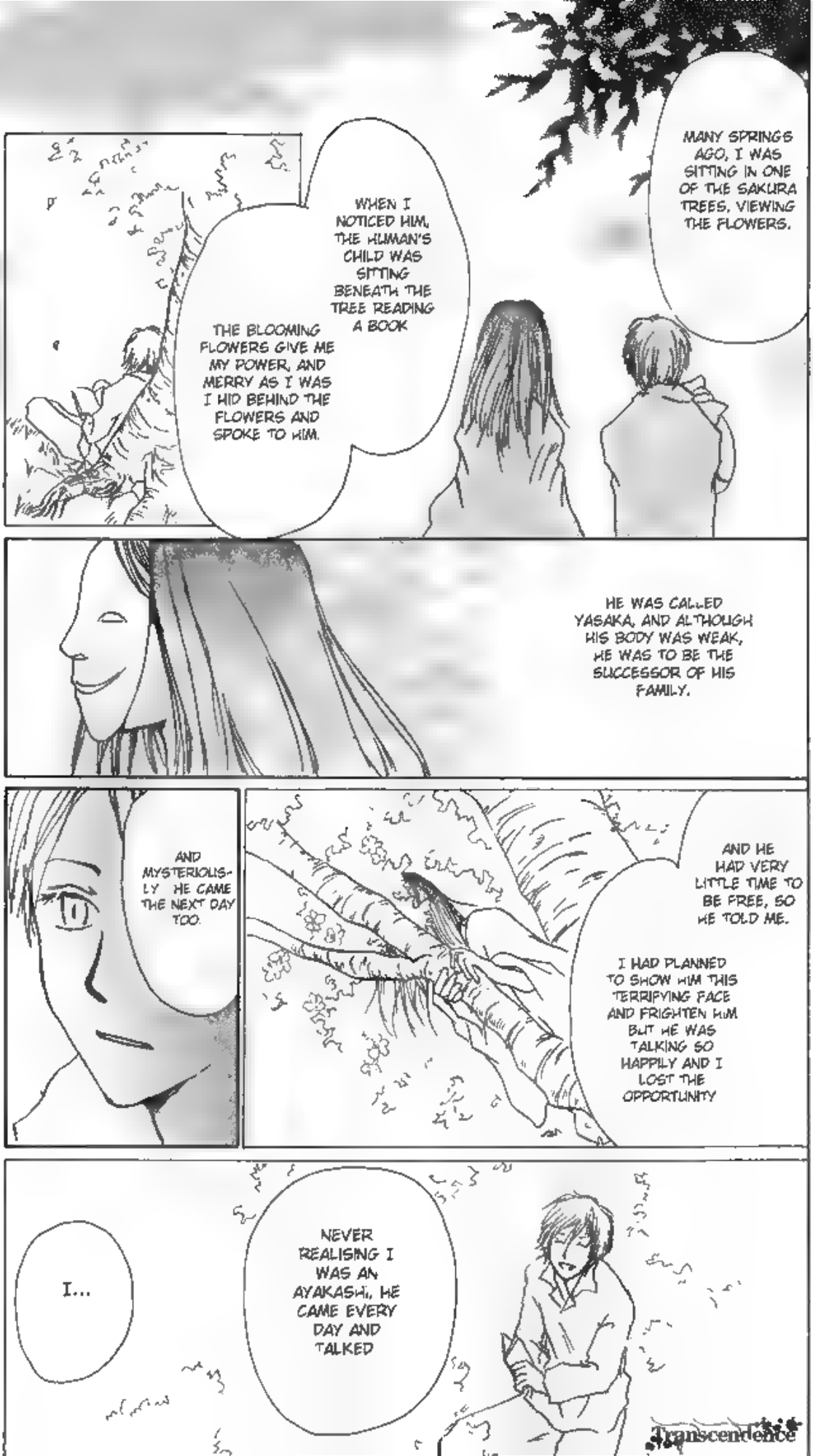
＊壁の妖

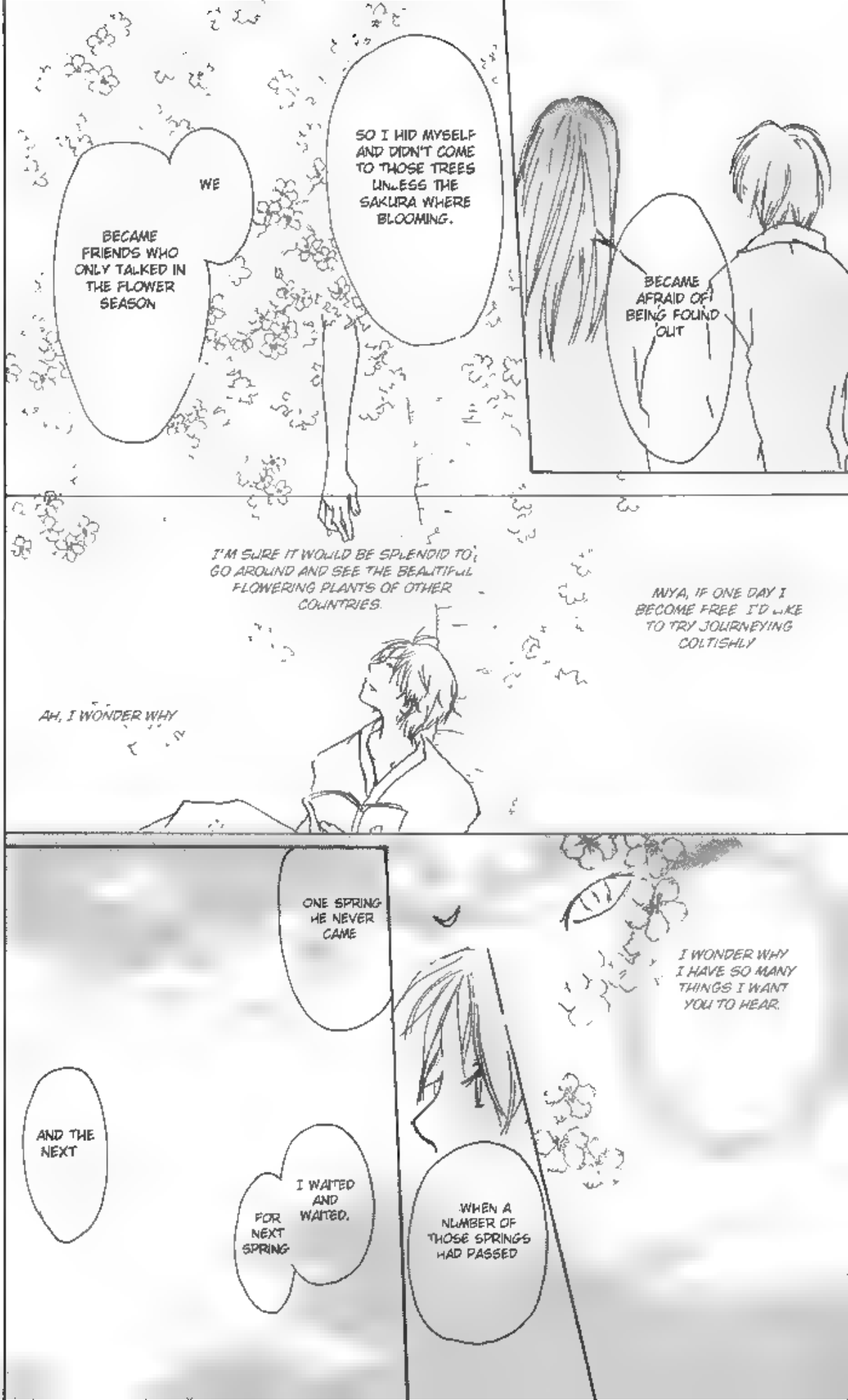
部屋の隅を見ると天井から何かがぶらさがっていた、という話がやりたくて出来た妖です。
顔がぶらさがっているのが恐いのですが、少しはずして体のほうがぶらさがっているのがいいな、では顔はどこにあるのかという流れになりました。ただこういうものは顔が見えると一気に冷めてしまうので、難しいものです。

＊男の登場人物

何気に夏目も先生も男なのでゲストキャラが男性だと画面上の暑ぐるしさにひやひやします。こういう危機を皆どうやって回避されているのでしょうか。もっと勉強せねばと、思わぬところでつまづくことの多い作品です。

MIYA CAME THE NEXT DAY TOO.
EXCUSE ME.
HM?
PUT YOUR HAND OUT BOY
WAAAH! TH-THANKS BUT DON'T SET THEM FREE IN MY ROOM!
AHAHA, AREN'T THEY PRETTY?
AS THANKS FOR CARING FOR YASAKA-SAMA.
ORIGI-NALLY A HUMAN?
YASAKA-SAMA WAS ORIGINALLY A HUMAN
HE LOVED TO LOOK AT FLOWERS AND BUTTER-FLIES.


MANY SPRINGS AGO, I WAS SITTING IN ONE OF THE SAKURA TREES, VIEWING THE FLOWERS.
WHEN I NOTICED HIM, THE HUMAN'S CHILD WAS SITTING BENEATH THE TREE READING A BOOK
THE BLOOMING FLOWERS GIVE ME MY POWER, AND MERRY AS I WAS I HID BEHIND THE FLOWERS AND SPOKE TO HIM.
HE WAS CALLED YASAKA, AND ALTHOUGH HIS BODY WAS WEAK, HE WAS TO BE THE SUCCESSOR OF HIS FAMILY.
AND MYSTERIOUSLY HE CAME THE NEXT DAY TOO.
AND HE HAD VERY LITTLE TIME TO BE FREE, SO HE TOLD ME.
I HAD PLANNED TO SHOW HIM THIS TERRIFYING FACE AND FRIGHTEN HIM BUT HE WAS TALKING SO HAPPILY AND I LOST THE OPPORTUNITY
I...
NEVER REALISING I WAS AN AYAKASHI, HE CAME EVERY DAY AND TALKED
Transcendence


WE BECAME FRIENDS WHO ONLY TALKED IN THE FLOWER SEASON
SO I HID MYSELF AND DIDN'T COME TO THOSE TREES UNLESS THE SAKURA WHERE BLOOMING.
BECAME AFRAID OF BEING FOUND OUT
I'M SURE IT WOULD BE SPLENDID TO GO AROUND AND SEE THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERING PLANTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.
MIYA, IF ONE DAY I BECOME FREE I'D LIKE TO TRY JOURNEYING COLTISHLY
AH, I WONDER WHY
ONE SPRING HE NEVER CAME
I WONDER WHY I HAVE SO MANY THINGS I WANT YOU TO HEAR.
AND THE NEXT
I WAITED AND WAITED. FOR NEXT SPRING
WHEN A NUMBER OF THOSE SPRINGS HAD PASSED

I SEARCHED ALL AROUND FOR HIM.
NOT KNOWING WHERE I SHOULD LOOK, I SEARCHED
AND FINALLY, I FOUND SOMETHING.
I HEARD AN AYAKASHI FAMOUS FOR BEING A ARTIST HAD PAINTED THAT ROW OF TREES IN WINTER, AND I WHEN WENT TO LOOK
YASAKA-SAMA WAS INSIDE THAT PAINTING
THE HUMAN WORLD PROBABLY BECAME SO UNPLEASANT THAT HE FLED INSIDE THIS PAINTING.
SO I TOOK THAT PAINTING AND TO GRANT HIM SOLACE I STARTED A JOURNEY
ALONG
IF ONE DAY I CAN SOOTHE HIS HEART, I'M SURE HE'LL COME OUT FOR ME...
AND WE CAN START TALKING AGAIN.
ザァァ

CERTAINLY I CAN FEEL SPIRITUAL POWER FROM THIS PAINTING, AND IT IS SOMETHING AN AYAKASHI OF MAGNITUDE DREW
BUT THIS IS JUST A PAINTING
NO MATTER HOW LONG SHE WAITS, HE WON'T COME OUT
THIS IS JUST SOMETHING THAT DEPICTS THE ROW OF TREES IN WINTER, AND THE MAN CALLED YASAKA WHO STOOD THERE.
THAT MAN IS MOST LIKELY ALREADY-
EVEN SO.
I WAS VISITED EVERYDAY BY MIYA, BRINGING FLOWERS. .
EVERYDAY..
cough cough
THAT'S A STRANGE COUGH.
Mn.
Yasaka-sama. today I caught you a frog
F-frog?
Let it go right now and go home Frogs are dangerous
Flower blizzard!
Stop it, you'll make a mess of my room!
EVERYDAY...

05

＊東京／

地方者なので滅多に編集部の方達とお会い出来ないのですが、そのおかげか上京した時はせっかくなのでと編集部の方達に話を聞かせて頂ける機会があります。マンガ作りが大好きな身としては、失礼なくらい直球なことを質問してしまったりするのですが、そのぶん熱い答えを返してくださることが多くて、驚くほど触発されてしまいます。こちらは担当さまとうんうん悩んでガシガシ描いた物を提出させて頂いているので、まったく気付かなかった所にもとても気をつかった雑誌作りをされているのを知るとやはり意欲がわいてきます。

I SEE IT.
ALONE, CARRYING ONLY A PAINTING
YOU ARE POSSESSED BY AN UNLUCKY SHADOW.
IT'S AN AYAKASHI THAT COMES OUT BEFORE SPRING AND IN THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE GOES AROUND TELLING FORTUNES.
MU, THAT IS SPRING JIZOU.
WOAH!

T/N- Jizou is the Japanese word used for Ksitigarbha, one of the Buddhist Bodhisattvas. In Japan he is believed to protect stillborn children in the afterlife

06

＊夏目の服

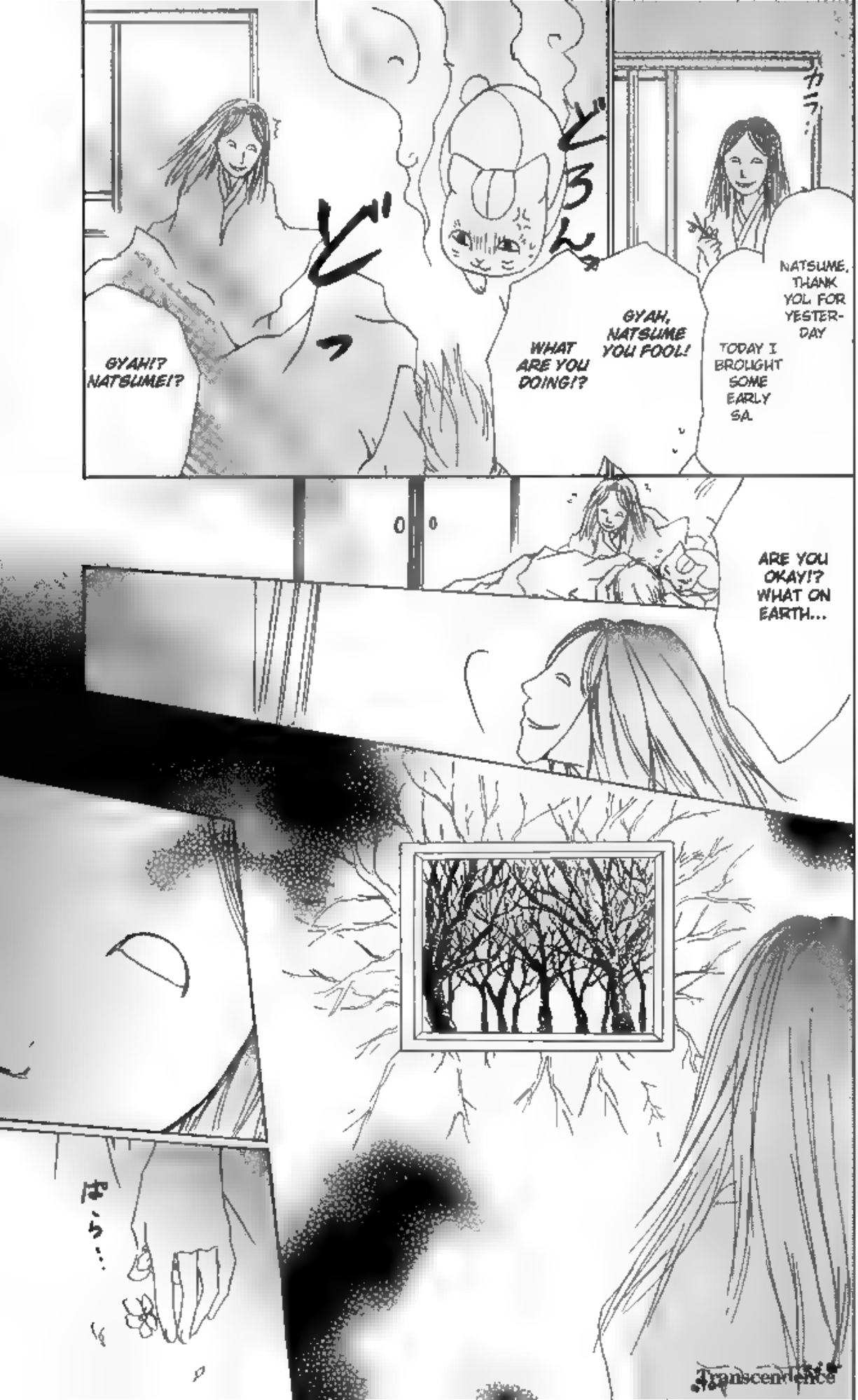
夏目のイメージとしてガクラン姿や、夏服の開襟シャツというのが一番にあるのですが、設定として実はチンピラっぽい服が好きというのがあります。
最近は塔子さんがじゃんじゃん新しいジャージを買ってきてくれるという甘やかされぶりがちらほらと見えてきました。
シーンがかちっと決まらないことがあるので柄ものの服は避けることが多く、固定した服を着せるのが好きだったのですが、最近はアシスタントさんに相談しつつ色々貼ってもらうのも楽しくなってきました。

クールぶってるのにかわいい柄もののマフラーを巻いているとか、こういう所を考えるのも楽しいのだと「夏目」で初めて思えました。

OKAY
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER.
YES.
REALLY IT WAS JUST YOUR IMAGINATION... DID YOU GO SHOPPING?
REALLY?
I...
BECAME AFRAID OF BEING FOUND OUT, HUH?
EVEN SO
I'M HOME!
I WONDER WHAT THEY MEANT, THAT SPRING JIZOU'S WORDS.
.WAIT NATSUME, I SENSE A STRANGE PRESENCE

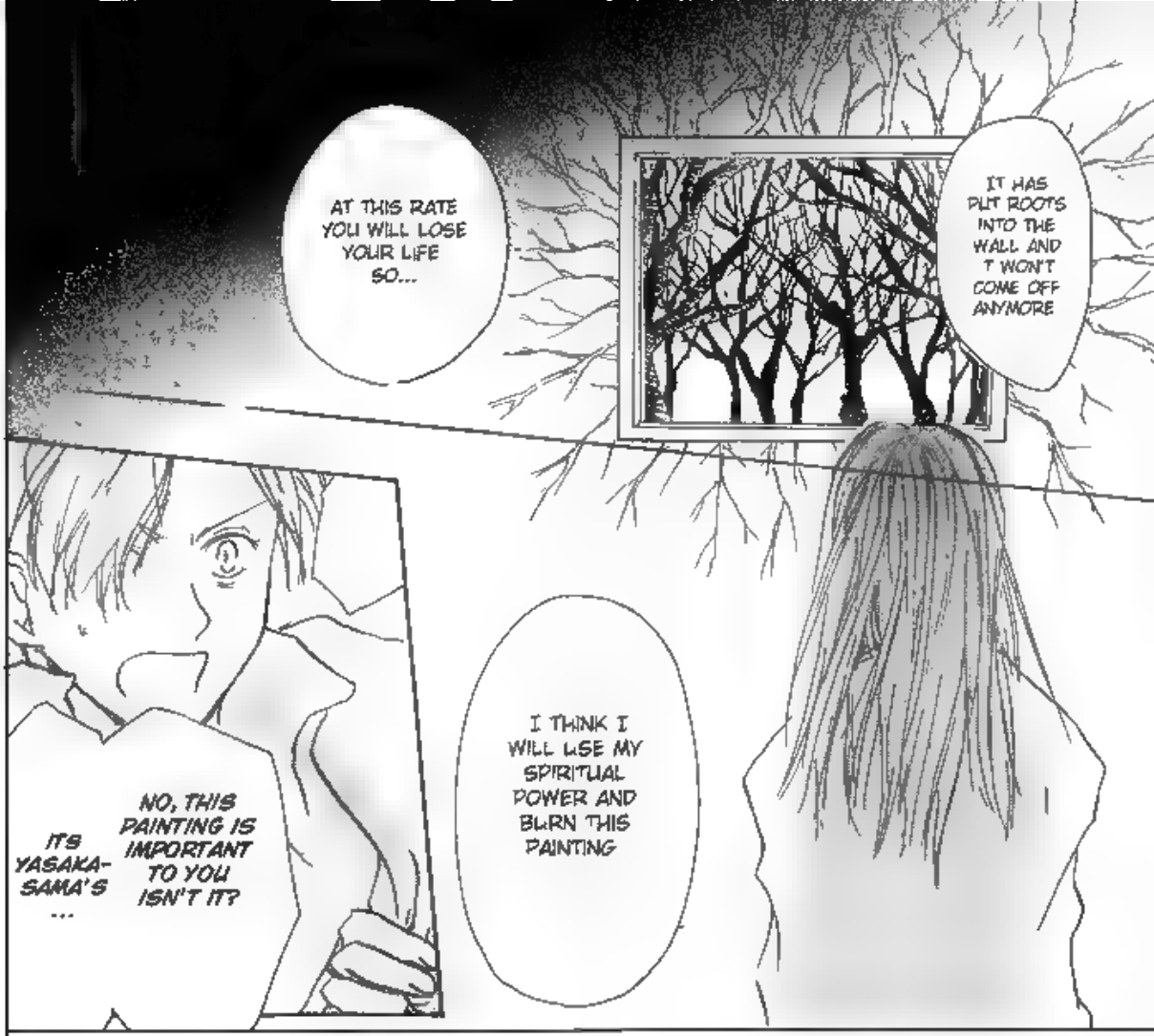
WHA- WHAT IN THE WORLD!?
...THE TREES INSIDE THE PAINTING ARE GRO-WING THEIR BRANCHES ..?
...ALL..? THIS IS...
I SEE, SO THIS IS...
IT'S ABSOR-BING YOUR STRENGTH, NATSUME
I WILL NOT FORGIVE A MERE PAINTING ATTEMPTING TO STEAL MY PREY!
SEN-SENSEI!
THE SHADOW THE SPRING JIZOU WAS TALKING ABOUT WAS THIS PAINTING

I WILL DESTROY IT IMMEDIATELY.
Sensei!!
Sto-
THIS PAINTING IS MIYA'S ..
UGH!

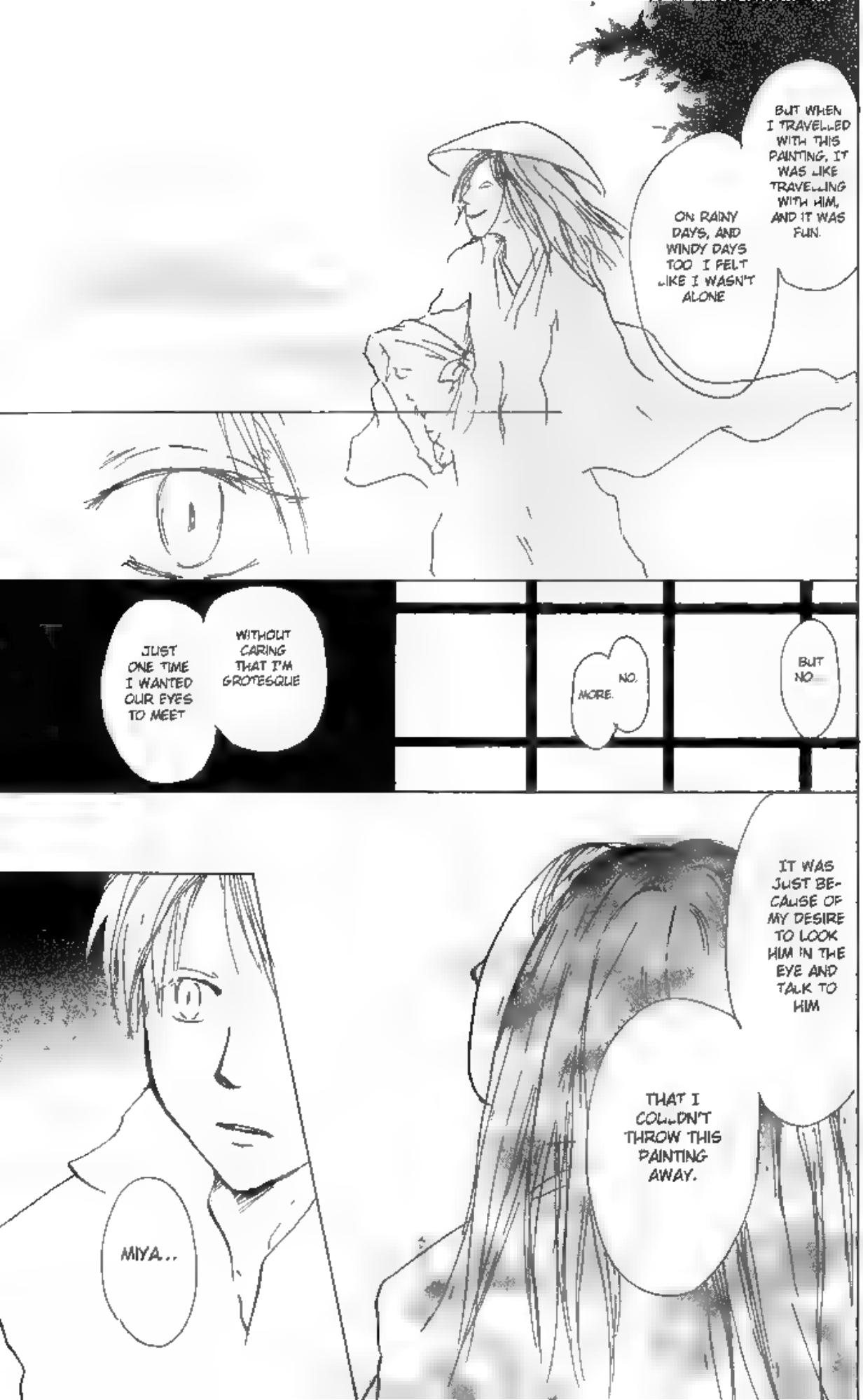

NATSUME, THANK YOU FOR YESTER-DAY
TODAY I BROUGHT SOME EARLY SA
GYAH, NATSUME YOU FOOL!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
GYAH!? NATSUME!?
ARE YOU OKAY!? WHAT ON EARTH...

I'D LIKE TO TRY JOURNEYING COLTISHLY.
MIYA, IF ONE DAY I BECAME FREE...
BUT I'M SURE IT WOULD BE DULL IF I WERE ALONE...
ぱち…
WHEN THE TIME COMES WILL YOU COME WITH ME?
YOU CAME TO VISIT ME THIS YEAR TOO, HUH?
HELLO MIYA.

WHAT SHALL WE TALK ABOUT TODAY?
ぱち…
SEN-SEI.
MIYA
I'M SORRY, NATSUME.
AND...
IT SEEMS LIKE IT HAS STARTED TO GROW BY ABSORBING YOUR STRONG POWERS.
IT SEEMS THIS PAINTING HAS ATTAINED SOME SPIRITUAL POWERS FROM BEING CARRIED AROUND BY AN AYAKASHI FOR SO LONG.


AT THIS RATE YOU WILL LOSE YOUR LIFE SO...
IT HAS PUT ROOTS INTO THE WALL AND IT WON'T COME OFF ANYMORE
I THINK I WILL USE MY SPIRITUAL POWER AND BURN THIS PAINTING
NO, THIS PAINTING IS IMPORTANT TO YOU ISN'T IT?
ITS YASAKA-SAMA'S ...

IT'S FINE NATSUME, TRUTHFULLY, I KNEW
THAT PERSON.
YASAKA-SAMA IN THE SPRING THAT HE DIDN'T VISIT, HE WAS MOST LIKELY.
ALREADY GONE.
HE WASN'T A STRONG PERSON.


BUT WHEN I TRAVELLED WITH THIS PAINTING, IT WAS LIKE TRAVELLING WITH HIM, AND IT WAS FUN.
ON RAINY DAYS, AND WINDY DAYS TOO I FELT LIKE I WASN'T ALONE
JUST ONE TIME I WANTED OUR EYES TO MEET
WITHOUT CARING THAT I'M GROTESQUE
NO. MORE.
BUT NO...
IT WAS JUST BECAUSE OF MY DESIRE TO LOOK HIM IN THE EYE AND TALK TO HIM
THAT I COULDN'T THROW THIS PAINTING AWAY.
MIYA..

Transcendence

WAIT MIYA, I'M STILL FINE.
..LET'S JUST TRY A BIT LONGER, A BIT LONGER TO FIND A WAY TO TAKE IT DOWN.
BUT...
IT'S YOUR TREASURED PAINTING ISN'T IT?
I LIKE IT TOO.
..HMPH, FOOLS!
. SENSEI, I'M SORRY
MIYA AND I ARE ALIKE ALOT

I WANT MIYA TO KEEP THIS PAINTING
WE ARE AFRAID
THE PERSON DEPICTED IN THIS PAINTING IS
YASAKA-SAMA, WHO EVEN IN WINTER WHEN HE KNEW MIYA WOULDN'T COME,
CAME TO THESE TREES AND SEARCHED, WANTING TO SEE HER.

AND LIKE THAT I WONDERED IF THERE WAS A WAY
cough
cough
FOOL
SENSE!
NATSUME, COULD YOU HELP ME?

WITH WHAT?
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND, I'M GOING TO BURN THIS PAINTING!
MIYA!
IT'S OKAY, I'VE ALREADY DECIDED BUT BEFORE THAT. .
COULD YOU HELP ME PAINT THE SAKURA IN FULL BLOOM?
LIKE THE TIME WHEN I MET HIM.
.OKAY I MIGHT BE SCOLDED BY TOUKO-SAN THOUGH.

MIYA
NATSUME
MIYA
ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?
YASAKA-SAMA, HE
WE DID IT!
KAKA!
WE

THANK YOU NAT-SUME SLEEP TIGHT
SLEEP TIGHT
FULL BLOOM
AH I DREW THESE SAKURA

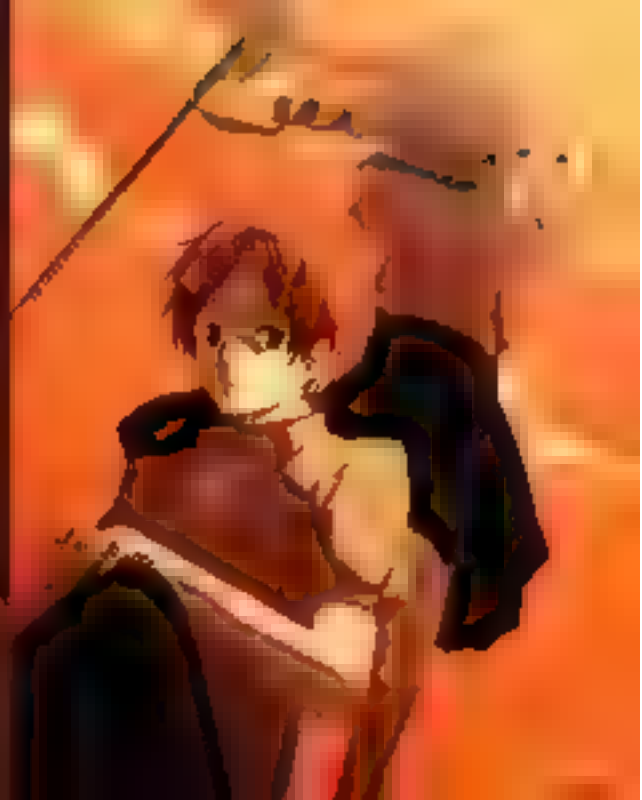
OVER HERE ARE MIYA'S AND THESE ARE SEN-SEI'S.
I SEE THIS MUST BE INSIDE THAT PAINTING

WHEN I WOKE UP THE BRANCHES THAT HAD GROWN OUT AND THE SAKURA WE PAINTED ON THEM
HAD ALL FADED AWAY
WHEN I PEERED INSIDE THE PAINTING
I COULD NO LONGER SEE YASAKA-SAMA.
SINCE THEN MIYA HASN'T COME TO VISIT
HE LEFT ..

THAT PERSON'S HEART MAY HAVE RESIDED INSIDE THIS PICTURE THAT MIYA FELT SO STRONGLY ABOUT.
THIS PICTURE ABSORBED MY POWER AND GREW ITS BRANCHES.
PERHAPS HE WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN BY MAKING THE SAKURA BLOOM.
I WONDER IF THOSE TWO ARE STILL SURROUNDED BY THE SAKURA OR PERHAPS HE WAS RELEASED FROM THE PAINTING
THAT'S STILL IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME BUT.
NAH, IT'S NOTHING
WHAT? DID YOU SAY SOMETHING, NATSUME?
FAREWELL...
AND THEY'RE HAPPILY JOURNEYING TOGETHER.
.MIYA WANTED TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH

FAREWELL, MIYA.....
MY FRIEND WHO I MET IN THE SEASON WHEN THE FLOWERS BLOOM...
I WANT TO GO TO THE FLEA MARKET AGAIN.
WHAT? DIDN'T YOU LEARN ANYTHING FROM THIS!?
HAHA, THERE'S JUST SOMETHING I WANT.
...A SOFTLY COLOURED FLOWER HAIRPIN.
Transcendence

Credits



HAHA.
LOOK HOW MANY I GOT!
IN THIS FOREST THERE'S NOTHING I DON'T KNOW.
THE SPOT WHERE YOU CAN PICK MUSHROOMS IN SUMMER MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME ALL OF IT
THE SPOT WHERE THE TROUT GATHER THE AKEBIA VALLEY
THE LOTUS FIELD
うる…
YEAH, GET OUTTA HERE USELESS!
WEAKLINGS ARE AN EYESORE.
KYAAAH!!
RUSTLE.
HM.
YOU STILL WANDERING ROUND THE FOREST?
OI, *CHIBI KITSUNE!
*T/N. Midget fox
ha!
ALRIGHT, BOYS DON'T CRY
I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO LIVE ON MY OWN FROM NOW ON.
ナ"ナ"
OI! QUIT IT!!
GET LOST!!
ズキン

SPECIAL ARC 1: NATSUME BOOK OF OBSERVATIONS

夏目友人帳

なつめゆうじんちょう

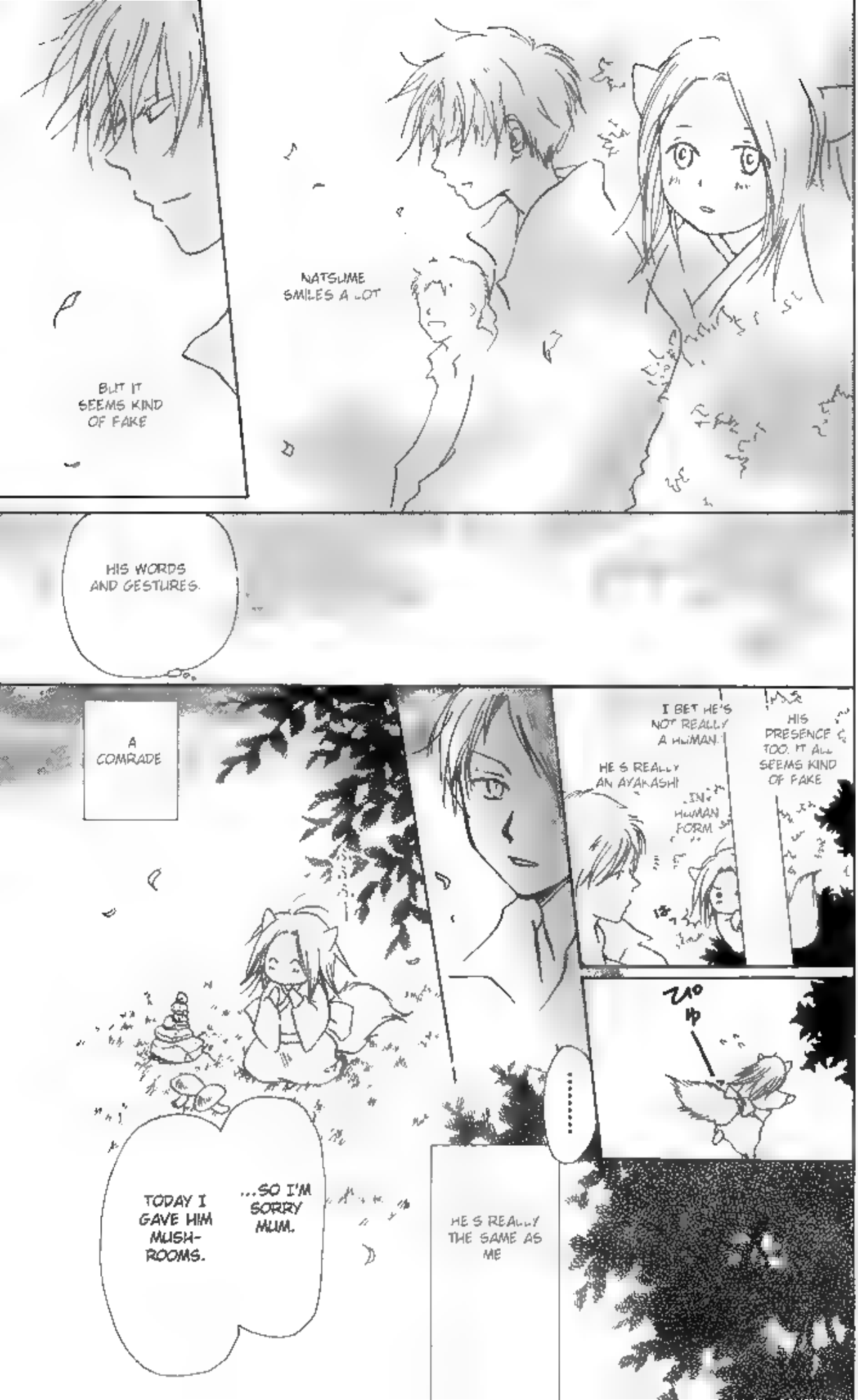
特別編1 夏目観察帳①

とくべつへん　なつめかんさつちょう

WHO. WHO'S THAT..?
WAH. HE'S GOT AN UGLY CAT WITH HIM!
GRIN
WHAT'RE YOU LOT DOING?
HM? OH. YOU GUYS'RE YOUKAI
MU!? ARE YOU A HUMAN'S CHILD!?
BULLYING SUCH A LITTLE KID...
SEEING AYAKASHI EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A HUMAN?

YOU CHEEKY... I'LL EAT YOU!!
GYAH.
UGH!
SORRY FOR STICKING MY NOSE IN UNINVITED
AH, CRAP
Oi Natsume, where are you?
WHERE'D YOU GET TO, NATSUME?
AH, SORRY

WOAH WHAT THE HELL? IT'S RAINING MUSHROOMS!
WHY MUSH-ROOMS!?
Are they up mushrooms!?
THAT'S A HUMAN?
I HATE HUMANS.
.BLT
Natsume look out!
Don't tell anyone
Alright
ow!
Natsume don't sleep!
What should we do for dinner?
I got hit by your rebound back there
Ahaha, sorry sorry
HE'S CALLED "NATSUME"
HE HAS A REALLY UGLY PET CAT
HUH? ISN'T THAT YOUR CAT NATSUME?
DID IT FOLLOW YOU HERE?
AH, SORRY
THAT HUMAN.
SEEMS TO LIVE IN THAT BOX LOOKING PLACE


NATSUME SMILES A LOT
BUT IT SEEMS KIND OF FAKE
HIS WORDS AND GESTURES.
A COMRADE
I BET HE'S NOT REALLY A HUMAN.
HE'S REALLY AN AYAKASHI
IN HUMAN FORM
HIS PRESENCE TOO. IT ALL SEEMS KIND OF FAKE
TODAY I GAVE HIM MUSH-ROOMS.
...SO I'M SORRY MUM.
HE'S REALLY THE SAME AS ME

IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU WERE A COMRADE.
THEN YOU COULD LIVE IN THE FOREST WITH ME
I'D TE... YOU EVERYTHING
ABOUT THIS FOREST
AH, IT'S THE UGLY CAT
IS IT REALLY A CREATURE OF EARTH?
AH, WHAT'RE YOU DOING NYANKO-SENSEI!?
WHAT'S UP NATSUME?
HM?

IT HAS TAKEN TO YOU.
AH, WAIT..
I'M THE BAD ONE..?
HUH!?
NATSUME, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU TO BUY PAPER CUPS.
OKAY
I GIVE UP
TAKE THAT!

IT FLEW!
はっ
.H. HUH!?
HE'S GONE...
たたっ
I FEEL KINDA SORRY FOR HIM.
BUT I HOPE HE GIVES UP TAILING US NOW
あああ
AH!
WAAH.
WE CAME HERE FOR THE CLASS REUNION STUDY TRIP, AND WE'RE GOING BACK TO TOWN TOMORROW
I'D FEEL SORRY FOR HIM IF HE DEVELOPED SOME WEIRD ATTACHMENT TO ME.
ポッ
HE'S ALREADY ATTACHED TO YOU.
SHUT UP SENSEI
IT'S NOT STOPPING, IS IT?

Rustle
ぱさっ
ささっ
Sigh
THANK YOU.
はあ

WHAT'S WITH THAT LEAF?
WOW
GYAHAHA!
OI NATSUME!
WERE YOU OKAY IN THE RAIN? ..HUH!?
LAUGH ALL YOU WANT
MOTHER
I'M GONNA PICK LOTS OF MUSHROOMS TOMORROW TOO.
I'M NOT USELESS ANYMORE AM I?
I WAS USEFUL TOO, HE SAID "THANK YOU"
AND IF I HAVE ENOUGH I... SELL THEM AGAIN
OH, IT'S THE CHIBI KITSUNE!
Rustle

YOU STILL HAVEN'T LEARNED YOUR LESSON?
KYAAH!
WE TOLD YOU TO GET OUT
EYESORE
YEAH YOU WEAKLING!
OW!
AH
STO-
NO, I'M NOT USELESS ANYMORE!!
DISAPPEAR USELESS!
USELESS THINGS SHOULD JUST DISAPPEAR.
YAAH!!

LET GO, CHIEN!
I TOLD YOU TO QUIT IT DIDN'T I?
HE'S THE GUY FROM BEFORE!!
WASN'T MY FIST ENOUGH?

BOOK OF FRIENDS"? I'VE HEARD OF THAT
THOSE THAT HAVE THEIR NAMES WRITTEN IN IT BECOME CAUGHT IN A MASTER SERVANT CONTRACT
GYAAAH!!
HELP!!
IT REALLY ISN'T MY THING TO BEAT PEOPLE UP THOUGH.
HOW CAN YOU HAVE THE FACE TO SAY THAT?
Rustle
I'LL DEFIANTLY BE USEFUL
PLEASE MAKE ME YOUR SERVANT
...IT HAS MY NAME ON IT.

IS IT BECAUSE I'M WEAK?
BECAUSE I WON'T BE USEFU..?
..I DON'T WANT IT
I DON'T WANT TO TIE US TOGETHER LIKE THIS
WE'RE NOT A MASTER AND SERVANT, ARE WE?
I THINK WE HAVE
...A DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIP.

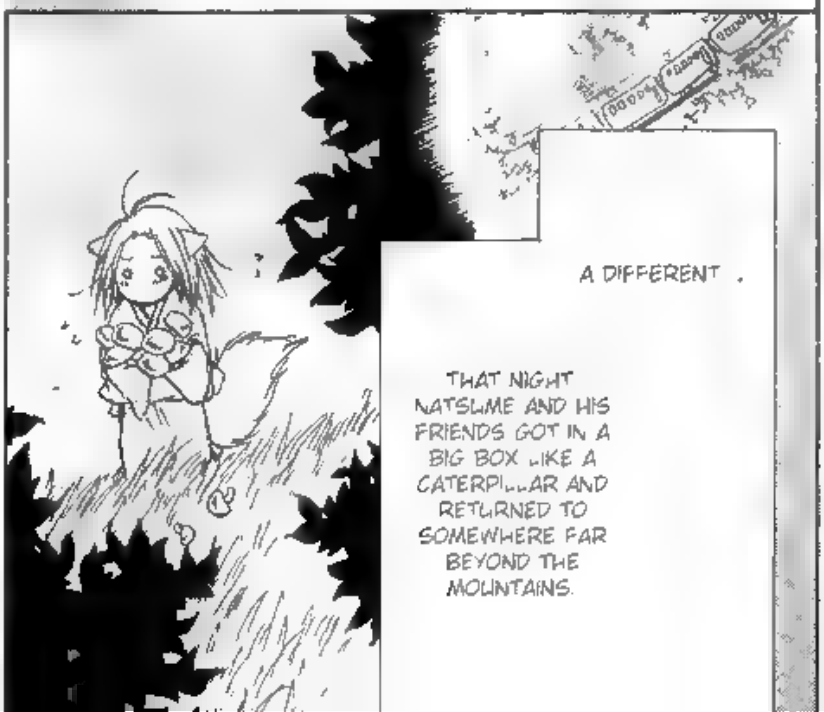
07

※ふ、ふろく…

実は「夏目」と私にとってもうひとつ大きなことがありました。それはちょっとひっくりかえるくらい嬉しくてありえないと思っていたことなのですが。
LaLaには時々ふろくでドラマCDがつくというすごい企画があるのですが、「夏目」も参加させて頂けることになりました！
これを聞いて私と一緒にひっくり返っておどろいてくれた方もいらっしゃるのではないでしょうか。

小さい頃はアニメが大好きだったのですが、最近は地方なせいかほとんどアニメ自体放送がなくて、見たいのに無知な身としましては、一体どうすればと動揺しまくってしまいました。
けれど自分の大まかなニュアンスと

←前へつづく



I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT NATSUME SAID BUT WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT MY HEART GETS IN A FLUTTER.
WHAT'S OUR DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIP? WHAT IS IT, I WONDER?
ONE DAY I'LL BE USEFUL, MORE USEFUL THAN THAT UGLY CAT
SO, I WANT TO GET STRONGER
IF I BECOME STRONGER, MAYBE NATSUME WILL ACCEPT MY NAME ONE DAY, MOTHER.

WOW LOOK, WHAT A PRETTY FLOWER.
ばき
AH, WHAT ARROGANCE, WHAT CHEEK
Gyahaha!
OH STOP IT, YOU'LL GET IN TROUBLE!
ITS FINE. NO ONE'S GONNA KNOW
YOU HUMANS.
IDIOT!
Hairy nose! Fool!
YOU INSENSITIVE, INFERIOR CREATURES. UNABLE TO SENSE EVEN HIGH CLASS AYAKASHI!!
I SPEND MY DAYS DISGUSTED EVERYTHING'S SO STALE
AH.
OI, IF YOU GO NEAR HIM YOU'LL BECOME A LIAR TOO.

夏目友人帳

なつめゆうじんちょう

特別編2

とくべつへん

なつめかんさつちょう

夏目観察帳②

HAHA ...
Obviously looking
KYAAH!
HUH?
WHAT WAS THAT I FEEL LIKE OUR EYES MET FOR A SECOND
NAH IT'S GOTTA BE MY IMAGINATION
THERE'S NO WAY A HUMAN COULD SEE ME
BOO!!
!!?
NO WAY THERE'S A HUMAN THAT WOULD NOTICE MY EXISTENCE
.....

I- I KNEW IT!!
YOU CAN REALLY SEE AYAKA...
OOF!
NO MERCY!!
WHAT A RUDE BRAT!!
The next day...
The next next day...
The next next next day..
...FUN.
HEY, THAT'S THE KID WHO MOVED HERE RECENTLY
THIS IS KINDA ...

相談させてもらった周りの意見や、CD製作会社さんからの素敵な候補の方の声をきかせて頂いて、すんなりと方向性を決めさせて頂くことが出来ました。
読者さまとのイメージの違いがあったら恐いなと思いつつ、新しい形の作品に触れられてとても嬉しかったです。

8月売りのLaLa10月号のふろくとなりますので興味を持たれた方はぜひぜひ手にとってやってくださいませ。

声優さんやスタッフさんのおかげでとてもステキな「ダム底の蕎」が仕上がっていると思います。

本当に応援してくださった皆さまありがとうございました。

おわり

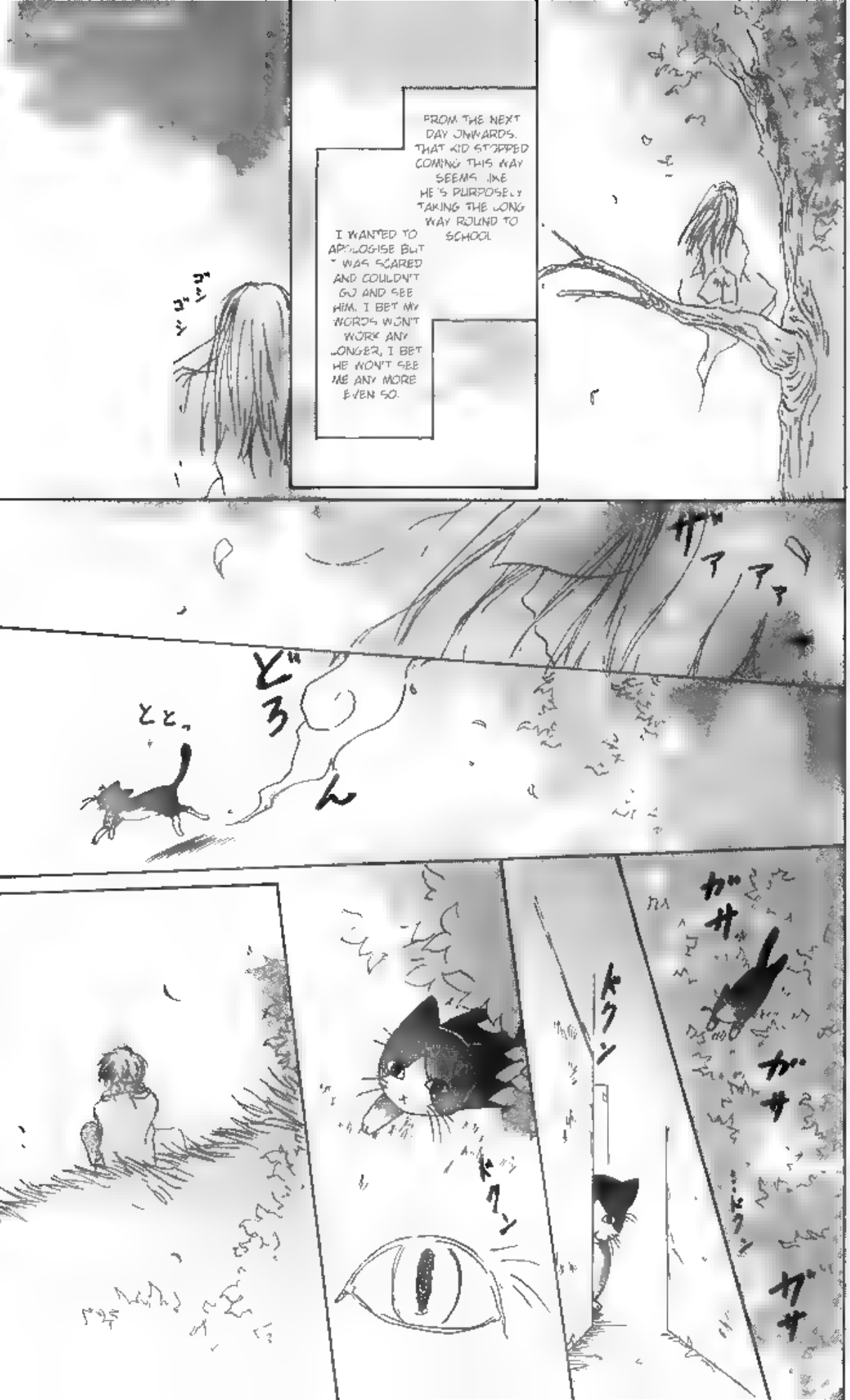
AHAHA, I SCARED YOU! I SCARED YOU. .
SIGH
BOO!
...ARE YOU BORED?
WHY ..
ARE YOU SO CONCERNED WITH ME?
WE JUST OCCASIONALLY END UP GOING IN THE SAME DIRECTION. SOMEONE LIKE ME HAS MANY THINGS TO DO.
LIKE I WOULD BE CONCERNED WITH SOMEONE LIKE YOU!
TH-S. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD HIM SPEAK!!
B-BORED!? AS IF!!

I SEE..
YEAH..
....
GEEZ, HOW ANNOYING.
AH, YOU'RE BACK. NEXT WEEK YOU'LL STAY AT MY BROTHER'S.
SORRY BUT THIS YEAR OUR CHILD IS TAKING EXAMS.
AH, YOU CAN HAVE THIS COAT AS A FAREWELL GIFT!
ギィ...
..I'M HOME!
THE ONES WHO'RE PUT OUT ARE US
AT ANY RATE, WE'LL HAVE YOU GUYS TAKE HIM FROM NEXT WEEK ..IKE YOU PROMISED.

FORGIVE US WITH THIS.
THIS SUCKS WHY DO I HAVE TO CARE ABOUT SOME HUMAN BRAT'S FEELINGS
I NEVER MEANT TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
...JUST WHEN WE FINALLY EXCHANGED WORDS...
THERE HE IS!
HE MIGHT TALK TO ME AGAIN
EH?
HUH? WHY ARE YOU WEARING MY COAT?
UNCLE GAVE IT TO ME.
REALLY?
AL-RIGHT

WOW!!
BOOM!!
ばしゃん
びしゃ
どんっ
WOAH!?
AH...
I'M SORRY
AH YOU GOT IT ALL DIRTY! WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT THIS!?
S-SORRY
I ONLY MEANT TO.

WHAT DID I DO!?
GO AWAY!
GO AWAY!!
WHY IS EVERY-ONE...
I HATE YOU ALL!!


FROM THE NEXT DAY ONWARDS, THAT KID STOPPED COMING THIS WAY SEEMS LIKE HE'S PURPOSELY TAKING THE LONG WAY ROUND TO SCHOOL
I WANTED TO APOLOGISE BUT I WAS SCARED AND COULDN'T GO AND SEE HIM. I BET MY WORDS WON'T WORK ANY LONGER, I BET HE WON'T SEE ME ANY MORE EVEN SO.
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TODAY, HE IS ALONE TOO.
Rustle
ビクッ
...OH, A KITTY...
HERE KITTY KITTY...
ギュ
YOU SMELL SWEET
HE CAN MAKE SUCH A GENTLE FACE LIKE THIS TOO AH I

I WANT TO BE ALONE
I WANT TO LIVE ALONE

...AS AN AYAKA-SHI,
DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND HUMANS
BUT BEING ALONE IS SAD
THAT AT LEAST I UNDERSTAND
AFTER A FEW DAYS, HE WAS TAKEN TO A TOWN FAR AWAY
TO STAY WITH A WOMAN WITH BRIGHT RED LIPS AND NAILS AND A MAN WHOSE EYEBALLS MOVED A LOT I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN.
COUNTLESS SEASONS HAS PASSED.
I WONDER IF HE IS SMILING NOW
THAT SAD WISH
SOMETIMES, I REMEMBER HIM.
THAT KIND SMILE, AND

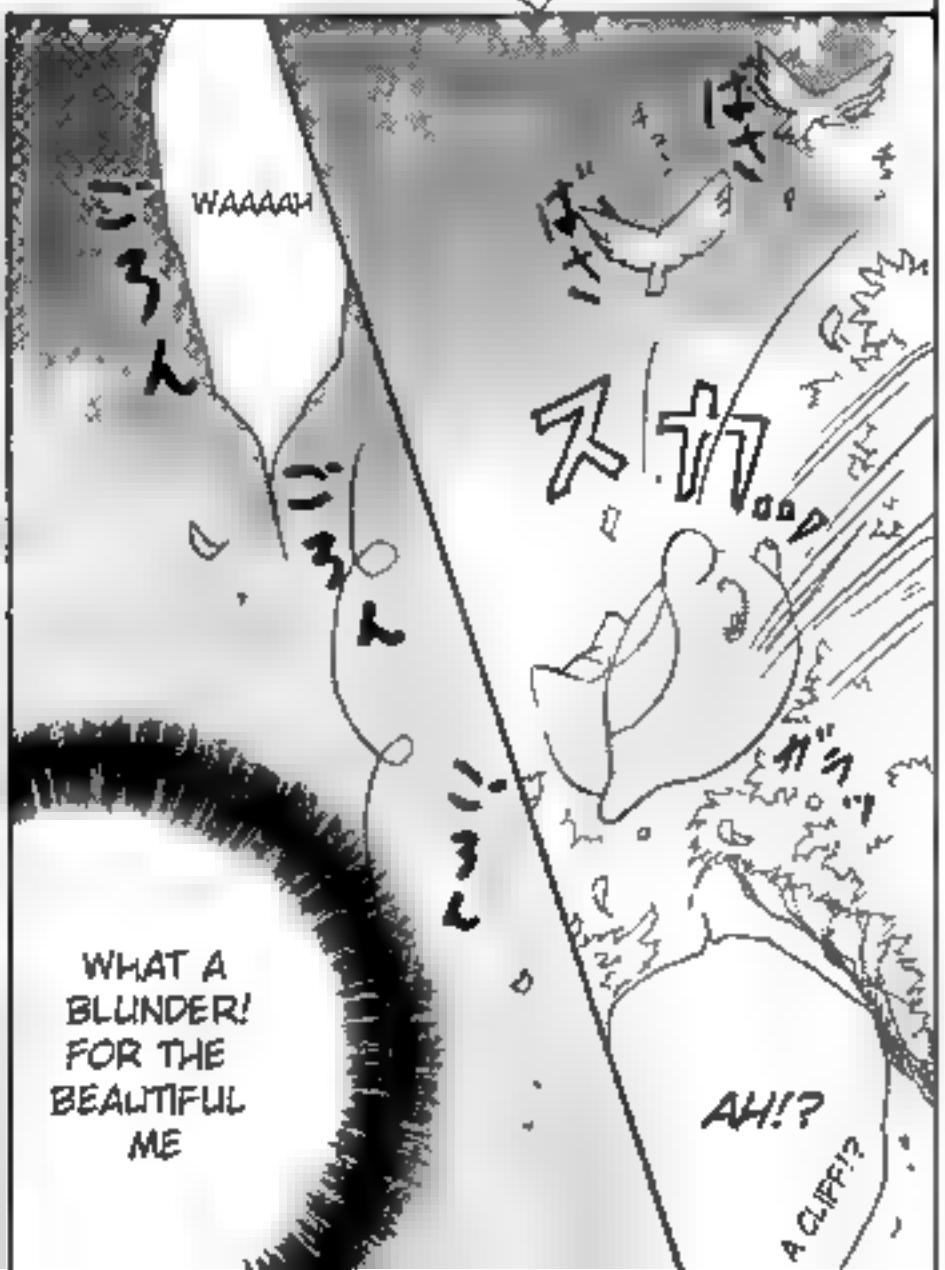
HE'S STILL HERE
...AH, THANK GOODNESS.
LONG TIME NO SEE!
I HAD AN ERRAND IN THE AREA, SO I THOUGHT I'D STOP BY
WE PARTED BADLY AND IT ALWAYS BOTHERED ME
BACK THEN, I COULD ONLY BE HURT BY OTHERS.
I FEEL LIKE I UNDER-STAND YOUR KINDNESS NOW

AH, HE SURELY MET SOMEONE KIND
YOU LOOK WELL, I'M GLAD
KIND ENOUGH THAT HE COULD MAKE THAT FACE ..
I'M NATSUME, NATSUME TAKASHI.
COULD YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME?

Natsume Yuujinchou

Special Arc 3

Nyanko-sensei's Book of Idleness



THIS IS A TEMPORARY FORM ANYWAY

MY ORIGINAL FORM IS VERY NOBLE

WHAT DID YOU SAY? THIS IS WHY YOU ARE SUCH LOW CLASS CREATURES!

GOOD MORNING

STUPID CAT

NORMING

WITHOUT A SINGLE RELATIVE, HE IS CALLED NATSUME

IF HE HAD SOMETHING TO BOAST IT WOULD BE HIS FLAWLESS OUTWARD APPEARANCE, HE'S AN UNFAVOURABLE, LOWLY BRAT

BUT BY THE COURSE OF EVENTS I BECAME THE GUARDIAN OF A HUMAN'S CHILD, AND IN ORDER TO LIVE WITH HIM I HAVE ADOPTED THIS KITTY STYLE

BUT WE GET ALONG RATHER WELL...

SENSEI! NYANKO -- SENSEI!

COME HERE, YOU CAN SEE FIREWORKS FROM THE NEXT TOWN

SENSEI SENSEI, I THINK THOSE ARE FIREWORKS

NYANKO -SENSEI IT'S SNOWING

WANNA GO TO A HANAMI* SENSEI?

*TN: HANAMI IS LIKE A PICNIC UNDER THE SAKURA TREES WHEN THEY ARE BLOOMING

TOUKO-SAN SAYS THE PRAWNS FROM THE FRIDGE DISAPPEARED.

YOU ATE THEM DIDN'T YOU, I TOLD YOU NOT TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS HOUSE!

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT

DON'T GET SO WORKED UP ABOUT ONE OR THIRTEEN PRAWNS YOU IGNORANT.

ARE YOU OKAY KITTY? DID YOU FALL INTO THIS HOLE LIKE ME?

HUH? NOW I LOOK CLOSELY IT'S ACTUALLY A KITTY

THE CIVILITY WAS AT AN END -

YAKUZA! VAGRANT! BALDY! WHITE ASPARAGUS!

FOR THE TIME BEING I'M NOT GOING TO GO HOME

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

I CAN'T CLIMB UP THERE

THIS IS WHY HUMAN CHILDREN ARE SO.

WAIT KITTY

LIKE I'M GONNA HANG AROUND WITH YOU, I'M GETTING OUTTA HERE

AH

...BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT HURT

YOU WERE JUST CALLING ME A PIG BEFORE WEREN'T YOU?

KYAA

Transcendente

OH YEAH, I HAVE CHO-COLATE

YOU MUST BE HUN-GRY

SNAP

I'LL GIVE YOU HALF

ガシャン

DON'T GO, DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE!

I WAS GOING TO SHARE IT WITH MUM AND DAD

ACTU-ALLY

YUMMY

もぐもぐ

HEY, WHY DON'T YOU COME TO MY HOUSE KITTY?

SO I CAME BY MYSELF BUT THEN I FELL DOWN HERE...

BUT THEY WERE BUSY AGAIN AND OUR PICNIC WAS CAN-CELLED

'YOU CAN SEE FIRE-WORKS FROM THE NEXT TOWN'

'SEN SEI'

'HURRY UP'

'SENSEI'

I'M SURE IT'LL BE TASTY IF I'M NOT ALONE

COME ON

WE CAN EAT DINNER AND SNACKS TO-GETHER

CALM DOWN HUMAN'S CHILD, THAT'S NOT TRUE...

KYAA A

WHAT SHOULD I DO, THE KITTY WILL DIE

I'M SOR RY KITTY

I'M SOR RY

がばっ

MUM SAYS RABBITS DIE IF THEY GET WET!

OH, OH NO!

WHAT ?

DO KITTIES DIE TOO?

ザァァァ

KYAAA IT'S RAINING!!

I'M SORRY KITTY, YOU STAYED BEHIND FOR ME

I STOPPED YOU...

EVEN THOUGH YOU WANTED TO GO HOME

SHE GOT QUIET...

COUGH

COUGH

COUGH

ザーーーーー

WAAAAH

WAAAAH

I'M SORRY YOU'RE GONNA DIE

I HATE WEAK THINGS

HUMANS ARE SUCH WEAK CREATURES

THEY'RE ALWAYS LIKE THIS

COUGH

THIS CHILD

WHY DO YOU CRY OVER ME

WEAK THINGS ARE ALWAYS UNFAIR

FLICKERING WITH THAT WEAK ATTITUDE

WANTING TO BE TOGETHER

LONELINESS

AND HIM TOO...

THIS SMELL, YOU'RE KITTY RIGHT?

IT'S WARM AND FURRY

HAHA, WHAT A GREAT DREAM ...

HUH? I'M FLYING ...?

...OH YEAH, I'VE GOTTA WAKE UP

I'VE GOTTA WAKE UP AND BRING THE KITTY HOME...

WAH

KNOCK KNOCK

WHAT AN UGLY CAT...

KNOCK KNOCK

POLICE BOX

CLATTER

AH!? WHAT'S WRONG LITTLE GIRL?

ARE YOU OKAY? YOU MUST BE LOST

SENSEI

NYANKO-SENSEI ? WHERE ARE YOU ?

KITTY ...

SENSEI

AH

とっ

とっ

NATSUME YUUJINCHOU 4/END
夏目友人帳4／おわり

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